

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

**Eleventh Session
(Fourteenth Lok Sabha)**



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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Wednesday, September 5, 2007/Bhadra 14, 1929 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

[English]

REFERENCES BY THE SPEAKER

- (i) **Congratulating scientists on successful launch of a Communication Satellite, INSAT-4CR, by the Launch Vehicle (GSLV-F04) on 2nd September, 2007 from Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota**

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, it is a matter of great pride that India's heaviest communication satellite, INSAT-4CR weighing 2,130 kilograms has been successfully placed in its geo-synchronous orbit on 2nd September, 2007. The satellite was launched from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota and injected in its orbit by the Launch Vehicle GSLV-F04. The smooth and perfect launch of the satellite is a great achievement of the Scientists of the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) and is demonstrative of India's growing capabilities in this field.

I am sure all sections of the House would join me in congratulating the scientists, technicians and other staff of ISRO associated with this satellite launch and wishing them success in their future endeavours.

11.02 hrs.

[English]

- (ii) **Tributes to Dr. Sarvapalli Radhakrishnan on his birthday and to the whole teaching fraternity on Teachers' Day**

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, today is also the birthday of Dr. Sarvapalli Radhakrishnan, our former President and a renowned educationist. This day is celebrated as Teacher's Day in our country in his honour. Traditionally, teachers have enjoyed the highest regard and respect in our society for their selfless and dedicated services to the nation.

Let us on this day pay our tributes to Dr. Sarvapalli Radhakrishnan and to the whole teaching fraternity, as without their immense contribution, no country can achieve the goals of progress and prosperity.

I only hope that at least on the Teachers' Day, you will listen to the headmaster!

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SRICHAND KRIPLANI (Chittorgarh): Mr. Speaker, this is an issue of National Interest. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I will allow everybody. I know that you want to raise some issues which you feel are very important. I have no intention of denying the hon. leaders or the Members the opportunity of raising important issues. I will allow them as soon as the Question Hour is over.

[Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi): Mr. Speaker Sir, the entire business of the House is being conducted outside. The House has totally been reduced to an ornament and it has lost all its relevance. The entire business is being transacted outside, if all the schemes are being formulated outside then what is the meaning of participating in the business transacted in this House? This is insult of the House and the Opposition and amounts to contempt of the House. If Committee is to be set up...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Do not record anything.

...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I know that you are agitated, and I am earnestly appealing to all the hon. leaders that I will allow you to raise the issues. I am not denying it; I will give you an opportunity.

*Not recorded.

[Translation]

Your leader in on his legs and all of you are joining him. We are listening to your leader.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I request you all to raise your issues at 12 o'clock. It is only 55 minutes from now.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Mr. Speaker, the entire country in raising the question. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I will call you.

[English]

I will call you after Question Hour.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Whom do I listen to and how do I do that, please let me know.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please come to my room and talk.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have not disallowed anyone from raising their matters. I am only saying that Question Hour is very important.

[English]

There are many important questions to be taken up on subjects like AIDS in children, power projects, etc. I only want the Question Hour to be gone into. I will allow you after the Question Hour is over. I promise that I will call you, Mr. Malhotra.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: If you do not want the House to function then it is allright.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned till 11:30 hours today.

11.07 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till thirty minutes past Eleven of the Clock.

11.30 hrs.

The Lok Sabha reassembled at Thirty Minutes past Eleven of the Clock

[Mr. SPEAKER in the Chair]

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajganj, Bihar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have given you a notice to suspend the Question Hour since it is being reported in the newspapers that a Committee of 15 members has been constituted. The other day when it was being discussed in the House then all the Opposition and allied parties averred that a JPC should be constituted on this issue....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I will allow you to raise it after half-an-hour, i.e. after the Question-Hour.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, this Government has totally made negative. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: At the end of the Question Hour, I will allow you.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, what is the point in the functioning of the House until the Government constituted a JPC on this issue? ...(Interruptions) This issue is related to the security of the country. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Parliament is being taken for a ride. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Only half-an-hour is left. Some important questions are there. Please allow.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I will allow you to raise it in half-an-hour's time.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : I will allow you to speak.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I will allow you to raise it.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Only half-an-hour's time is left.

[Translation]

The Question Hour will be over at 12 O' clock. How the House would function if this type of things take place every day.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Very important questions are here. I earnestly appeal to all of you to please allow the Question Hour to run.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Very important questions are listed today. Calling Attention Motion on important matter is listed. There is a discussion on important matter under Rule 193.

...(Interruptions)

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Testing of Fertilizer Samples

*281. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the samples of fertilizers and insecticides used in agriculture are tested by the Government throughout the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the names of the laboratories situated in various States for the purpose;

(d) the details of the targets for testing of fertilizer samples fixed and achieved during the last three years for each laboratory in the country; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to improve the conditions of these laboratories?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) There are 68 Fertiliser testing laboratories in the country including four of the Central Government, with analyzing capacity of 1.28 lakh samples per annum. Details are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

The samples of insecticides are tested by 49 State pesticide testing laboratories located in 21 States and a Union Territory, with annual analyzing capacity of 51440 samples. Two regional pesticides testing laboratories located at Kanpur and Chandigarh under the control of Central Government augments the effort of States and Union Territories for testing insecticides. The Central Insecticide Laboratory, Faridabad performs the statutory functions of referral analysis for prosecution cases. The names of pesticide testing laboratories are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(d) The details of fertilizer laboratories including the targets and achievements during last three years are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(e) The details of the method of analysis of quality parameters of fertilizers, minimum laboratory equipment and other laboratory facilities and qualification of Fertilizer Analyst have been prescribed under Fertilizer Control Order (FCO), 1985. Also training of Fertilizer Analysts by Central Fertiliser Quality Control and Training Institute is mandatory. The States are also advised to strengthen the quality control system through the Macro Management Scheme.

States have been provided the Grants-in-aid to strengthen the facilities in existing pesticides laboratories and also for setting up new state pesticide testing laboratories. In case of new State pesticide testing laboratories, Government of India provides Rs. 45.00 lakh for construction of laboratories and Rs. 25.00 lakh for purchase of equipments.

Statement-I

Details of Targets for Testing of the Fertiliser Samples Fixed and Achieved during 2003-04 to 2006-07 (State/Lab. Wise)

S.No.	Name of Lab.	2004-05			2005-06			2006-07		
		Target	Achievement	% capacity utilized	Target	Achievement	% capacity utilized	Target	Achievement	% capacity utilization
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Assam										
1.	Ulubari, Guwahati	250	167	66.8	250	28	11.20	500	19	3.80
Bihar										
2.	Patna	2000	881	44.05	2000	1432	71.60	2000	1285	64.25
Jharkhand										
3.	Ranchi	1500	677	45.13	2015	515	25.56	2015	688	34.14
Orissa										
4.	Bhuvaneshwar	2050	1145	55.85	2050	1157	56.44	2050	1726	84.19
5.	Sambalpur	1450	1284	88.55	1450	1308	90.21	1450	1150	79.31
West Bengal										
6.	Tollyganj	2500	1722	68.88	2500	1270	50.80	2500	1738	69.52
7.	Berhampur	1200	900	75.00	1200	801	66.75	1200	681	56.75
8.	Midnapur	800	664	83.00	800	528	66.00	800	584	73.00
Mizoram										
9.	Aizwal	250	0	0	250	5	2.00	250	12	4.8
Gujarat										
10.	Gandhinagar	2500	2629	105.16	2500	2579	103.16	2500	2003	80.12

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
11.	Junagarh	2750	2851	103.67	2500	3062	122.48	2500	2228	89.12
12.	Bardoli	2500	2726	109.04	2500	2781	111.24	2500	2098	83.92
Madhya Pradesh										
13.	Jabalpur	3910	1162	29.72	3910	1444	36.93	3910	1444	36.93
14.	Bhopal	2270	1807	79.60	2270	1613	71.06	2270	1613	71.06
15.	Gwalior	1330	1633	122.78	1330	1458	109.62	1330	1458	109.62
16.	Indore	1640	786	47.92	1640	982	59.88	1640	982	59.88
Chhattisgarh										
17.	Raipur	2843	1933	67.99	2843	2570	90.39	2843	2570	90.39
Maharashtra										
18.	Pune	3050	3151	103.31	2843	2569	90.36	4200	3075	73.21
19.	Amravati	2450	2285	93.26	2450	2079	84.86	3600	2244	62.33
20.	Aurangabad	3350	1686	50.33	3350	1769	52.81	3100	2041	65.84
21.	Nasik	2150	1984	92.28	2150	1851	86.09	2500	1948	77.92
Rajasthan										
22.	Durgapur	2000	1988	99.40	2000	1874	93.70	2000	1380	69.00
23.	Jodhpur	2000	1277	63.85	2000	1085	54.25	2000	1056	52.80
24.	Udaipur	2000	1357	67.85	2000	2006	100.30	2000	2427	121.35
25.	Bharatpur	—	—	—	—	—	—	2000	153	7.65
Haryana										
26.	Karnal	1700	1413	83.12	1700	1219	71.71	1650	1140	69.10
27.	Hisar	1605	1388	86.48	1605	1306	81.37	1650	1064	64.48
Punjab										
28.	Ludhiana	2000	2009	100.45	2000	2003	100.15	2000	2003	100.15
29.	Faridkot	1500	1504	100.27	1500	1512	100.80	1500	1512	100.80
Jammu and Kashmir										
30.	Srinagar	600	822	64.22	600	926	72.34	600	332	55.33
31.	Jammu	680			680			680	565	83.09

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Himachal Pradesh										
32.	Sundernagar	1000	1019	101.90	1000	628	62.80	1000	683	68.30
33.	Hamirpur	1000	743	74.30	1000	815	81.50	1000	787	78.70
Uttar Pradesh										
34.	Meerut	1500	1651	110.06	1500	1737	115.80	1500	2268	151.20
35.	Varanasi	1500	2053	136.86	1500	2492	166.33	1500	2389	189.26
36.	Lucknow	3000	5857	195.23	3000	5047	168.23	3000	5541	184.74
	Regional Soil Testing Lab. Rehman Khera	2000	585	29.25	2000	655	32.75	2000	490	24.50
	Regional Soil Testing Lab.	2000	701	35.05	2000	804	40.20	2000	745	37.25
Uttaranchal										
37.	U.S. Nagar	400	308	77.00	400	244	61.00	400	278	69.50
38.	Srinagar (Pauri)	400	129	32.25	400	209	52.25	400	206	51.50
Andhra Pradesh										
39.	Rajendranagar	3062	3018	98.56	3062	3159	103.16	3062	2500	81.64
40.	Warangal	3162	2326	73.56	3162	2733	86.43	3162	2340	74.00
41.	Ananthpur	2870	2470	86.06	2870	2712	94.49	2870	2490	86.76
42.	Bapatla	2914	3263	111.98	2914	2517	86.37	2914	2840	97.46
43.	Tedepalligedem	2992	2480	82.89	2992	2675	89.40	2992	2100	70.19
Karnataka										
44.	Bangalore	1850	1533	82.86	1850	1340	72.43	1850	1312	70.92
45.	Balthanangody	1850	1062	57.40	1850	510	27.56	660	315	47.73
46.	Dharwad	2600	1824	70.15	2600	2017	77.57	2600	1764	67.85
47.	Gangavathi	1850	1337	72.27	1850	1523	82.32	1850	1348	72.86
Kerala										
48.	Thiruvananthapuram	2500	2193	87.72	2500	2212	88.48	2500	2266	90.64
49.	Pattambi	2500	2016	80.64	2500	2026	77.92	2500	2261	90.44
Pondicherry										
50.	Pondicherry	700	682	97.43	700	601	85.86	700	705	100.71

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Tamilnadu										
51.	Coimbatore	420	564	134.28	420	710	169.04	438	715	163.24
52.	Koilpatti	840	832	99.05	840	881	104.88	876	910	103.88
53.	Madhurai	2100	2202	104.86	2100	2138	101.81	2190	2260	103.19
54.	Trichy	1680	1687	100.42	1680	1710	101.79	1752	1714	97.83
55.	Paramkudi	1260	1322	104.92	1260	1346	106.83	1314	1320	100.46
56.	Kancheepuram	2100	2162	102.95	2100	1702	81.05	2172	1800	82.87
57.	Dindigul	1260	1261	100.08	1260	1339	106.27	1314	1340	101.98
58.	Villupuram	1260	1291	102.46	1260	1344	106.70	1314	1280	97.41
59.	Salem	1260	1271	100.87	1260	1298	103.02	1314	1290	98.17
60.	Dharampuri	840	1271	151.31	840	1021	121.55	876	870	99.31
61.	Kumbakonam	840	876	104.28	840	910	108.33	876	912	104.11
62.	Thiruvapur	420	361	85.95	420	145	34.52	436	275	63.07
63.	Nagarcoil	1260	1266	100.48	1260	1290	102.38	1314	1230	93.61
64.	Ooty	1260	835	66.27	1260	1226	97.30	1314	1310	99.69
Government of India										
65.	CFQC & TI, Faridabad	4000	3361	84.03	4000	4570	114.25	4000	3713	92.82
66.	RFCL, Chennai	1500	2430	162.00	1500	2263	150.86	1500	3614	240.93
67.	RFCL, Navi Mumbai	15000	2555	170.33	1500	3294	219.60	1500	3536	235.73
68.	RFCL, Kalyani	1500	2743	182.87	1500	4062	270.86	1500	4024	282.66
Total		124730	108859	87.28	122488	111745	91.23	128318	107542	83.80

Statement-II

Sl.No.	State/UTs	Number of Laboratories	Location
1	2	3	4

A. Pesticide Testing Laboratories in State/UTs

1.	Andhra Pradesh	5	Rajendra Nagar, Guntur, Anantapur, Tadepalligudem & Warangal
2.	Assam	1	Guwahati

1	2	3	4
3.	Bihar	1	Patna
4.	Gujarat	2	Junagarh & Gandhinagar
5.	Haryana	2	Karnal & Sirsa
6.	Himachal Pradesh	1	Shimla
7.	Jammu and Kashmir	2	Srinagar & Jammu
8.	Karnataka	5	Bangalore, Bellary, Dharwad, Shimoga & Kotnoor
9.	Kerala	1	Trivendrum
10.	Madhya Pradesh	1	Jabalpur
11.	Maharashtra	4	Pune, Amaravathi, Thane & Aurangabad
12.	Manipur	1	Mantripukhri
13.	Orissa	1	Bhubaneshwar
14.	Punjab	3	Amritsar, Ludhiana & Bhatinda
15.	Rajasthan	2	Jaipur & Bikaner
16.	Tamil Nadu	9	Coimbatore, Kovilpatti, Erode, Madurai, Trichy, Aduthrai, Salem, Cuddalore & Kanchipuram
17.	Tripura	1	Agartala
18.	Uttar Pradesh	4	Meerut, Lucknow, (2 SPTLs) & Varanasi
19.	Uttaranchal	1	Rudrapur
20.	West Bengal	1	Midnapore
21.	Pondicherry	1	Pondicherry
	Total	49	

B. Regional Pesticide Testing Laboratories

1.	All States/UTs	2	Kanpur
			Chandigarh

C. Central Insecticides Laboratory

1.	All States/UTs	1	Faridabad
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Amendment in Mines Act, 1952

*282. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal for amendment of Mines Act, 1952 has been pending with the Ministry for long;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any time frame has been fixed for expediting the same; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) to (d) In 1996, a Sub-Committee of the Consultative Committee attached to the Ministry of Labour & Employment submitted a Report to the Government. Proposals for amendment of the Mines Act, 1952 were formulated on the basis of this Report and further inputs from three other sources *viz.*, (i) Recommendations of the Inquiry Committee on various disasters; (ii) Recommendations of various Safety Conferences and Working Group on Occupations Safety and Health set up by the Planning Commission; and (iii) ILO Convention 176 concerning safety and health in mines. These were circulated to different Ministries and stakeholder groups in October 2001. In view of the far-reaching implications of these proposals, the responses of the Ministries and stakeholder groups were found to be widely divergent, needing extensive consultation and meetings to reconcile the differences. The consultation process is actively underway and the issue has also been examined on 11.1.2007 by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Labour and by the Consultative Committee on 15.2.2007. However, since the objections to the proposals have already been largely examined and discussed, it is expected that a further period of one year would suffice to bring about these amendments.

[*Translation*]

Allocation of Wheat

*283. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of wheat required by the Government for Public Distribution System (PDS) and other welfare schemes every year;

(b) the details of demand and allotment of wheat under PDS and other welfare schemes during the last five years, year-wise and State-wise;

(c) the quantum of wheat stock of last season in the central pool; and

(d) the quantum and type of wheat alongwith the names of the countries from which it was imported by the Government for the said schemes during the last five years?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) The targeted number of families accepted by the Government for allocation of foodgrains under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), based on poverty estimates of Planning Commission for 1993-94 and population projection of Registrar General of India as on 1.3.2000, is 6.52 crores. The total number of families in the country in March 2000 was 18.04 crores. The TPDS being supplemental in nature and intended to cater to half of cereals requirement of each family, rice and wheat are being allocated to States and Union Territories for BPL and AAY families @ 35 kg per family per month. However, at this scale, the annual requirement of rice and wheat for 18.04 crores families would be about 76 million tons, which would be much in excess of the stocks in the Central Pool. Therefore, allocations for APL category families are being made depending upon availability of wheat and rice in the Central Pool by linking it with offtake of previous years.

The anticipated requirement of wheat during the current year for TPDS and welfare schemes is about 14 million tons. Details of allocations and offtake of wheat under the TPDS and other welfare schemes during the last five years are given in the enclosed Statements I to IX.

(c) The stock position of wheat since 1.4.2006 is as under:

(in lakh tons)	
Date	Stock of wheat
1.4.06	20.09
1.7.06	82.07
1.10.06	64.12
1.1.07	54.28
1.4.07	47.00
1.7.07	129.27

(d) There was no import of wheat during the years 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06 on Government account. A quantity of 54.54 lakh MTs of wheat was imported during the year 2006-07. Only the wheat conforming to phytosanitary and other quality specifications is imported into the country. The country-wise details of the quantities are given below:

(In Lakh Tons)		
Sl. No.	Country of Origin	Quantity
1	2	3
1.	Australia	14.28
2.	Russia	16.71
3.	Canada	11.86

1	2	3
4.	Argentina	1.52
5.	France	2.60
6.	Ukraine	1.72
7.	Bulgaria	0.37
8.	Romania	0.67
9.	Hungary	4.10
10.	Czech Republic	0.71
Total		54.54

The details of quantity and countries from where wheat has been ordered to be imported 'during the year 2007-08 are as under:

(In lakh tons)		
Sl. No.	Country	Quantity
1.	Canada	2.56
2.	Russia	1.25
3.	Any country*	1.30
Total		5.11

*Actual country of origin will be known after arrival of imported wheat.

Statement-I

State-wise Allocation and offtake of Wheat for the Years From 2003-04 to 2007-08 (Upto June 07) of Wheat Under TPDS.

(In '000 Tons)											
Sl.No.	States/UTs	2003-04		2004-05		2005-06		2006-07		2007-08 (Upto June, 07)	
		Allocation	Offtake	Allocation	Offtake	Allocation	Offtake	Allocation	Offtake	Allocation	Offtake
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1.	Andhra Pradesh	153.67	15.08	153.67	35.62	153.67	50.73	81.15	55.59	20.26	8.09
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	14.45	11.07	11.55	11.11	9.78	7.40	11.59	5.14	3.26	0.21
3.	Assam	260.00	218.24	410.00	403.04	337.02	280.24	254.23	250.05	65.09	62.17

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
4.	Bihar	2958.42	806.46	2958.42	934.77	2662.96	807.77	1132.10	494.65	223.04	119.08
5.	Chhattisgarh	547.39	125.53	535.37	125.93	437.96	132.48	120.65	55.98	17.14	11.94
6.	Delhi	836.80	453.47	836.80	432.06	825.77	366.57	486.30	400.94	118.53	97.61
7.	Goa	45.36	3.04	45.36	0.00	40.78	3.83	11.53	5.57	2.10	1.83
8.	Gujarat	2396.57	436.31	2389.97	533.15	2379.93	605.78	824.37	468.15	144.46	104.23
9.	Haryana	1335.87	373.22	1342.78	437.33	1093.23	257.03	463.72	248.72	92.24	63.40
10.	Himachal Pradesh	217.32	129.40	204.82	155.79	204.82	160.77	172.68	178.17	60.50	50.92
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	238.46	183.63	239.99	210.51	219.00	223.26	243.26	228.77	66.41	63.92
12.	Jharkhand	498.03	300.09	497.34	297.48	460.12	360.74	348.39	285.97	85.76	70.84
13.	Karnataka	676.97	321.14	676.98	361.58	617.18	376.52	367.87	298.50	95.18	69.80
14.	Kerala	479.60	161.18	569.66	294.97	559.29	377.42	330.18	281.98	80.22	65.86
15.	Madhya Pradesh	3367.45	1179.42	3627.67	1368.06	3304.51	1554.92	1614.27	1348.31	352.29	312.12
16.	Maharashtra	4834.26	1296.08	4748.56	1553.82	4704.87	1563.47	2071.72	1381.12	397.97	291.78
17.	Manipur	17.76	17.76	18.97	16.72	20.26	18.14	11.59	8.24	2.72	1.54
18.	Meghalaya	7.78	6.29	7.78	8.19	7.78	6.97	7.70	7.29	2.19	1.63
19.	Mizoram	12.12	11.01	12.12	11.78	12.12	7.55	10.36	8.99	2.77	1.88
20.	Nagaland	57.75	52.68	88.25	91.41	54.76	63.06	34.71	34.19	9.05	8.69
21.	Orissa	360.00	141.75	360.00	153.52	351.11	108.35	155.73	132.29	35.38	31.27
22.	Punjab	1669.78	153.00	1669.78	157.80	1341.84	95.73	353.03	118.31	42.37	17.98
23.	Rajasthan	3645.78	900.18	3645.86	1183.53	3042.55	953.62	1335.72	915.41	270.31	233.87
24.	Sikkim	6.40	2.40	10.20	4.77	7.20	4.65	5.35	5.38	1.64	1.34
25.	Tamilnadu	120.00	47.53	120.00	59.94	120.00	77.98	95.58	90.18	30.10	23.85
26.	Tripura	23.65	15.26	47.94	21.28	47.94	29.94	26.96	21.47	6.41	5.26
27.	Uttar Pradesh	7262.25	1990.81	7124.58	2240.79	5386.13	1616.39	2080.88	1497.25	388.41	384.46
28.	Uttaranchal	294.82	81.39	294.82	83.44	209.74	103.99	143.30	128.28	58.15	36.56
29.	West Bengal	4511.80	1221.65	4511.80	1701.03	2941.28	1822.70	1603.71	1290.94	379.54	344.34
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	11.10	6.46	11.10	0.89	10.96	4.31	5.95	4.70	1.89	1.13
31.	Chandigarh	71.34	0.63	69.34	0.00	62.07	0.00	9.39	0.00	0.25	0.58

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	3.00	0.99	3.00	0.00	3.03	0.75	1.60	0.36	0.58	0.00
33.	Daman and Diu	1.61	0.29	1.61	0.00	1.57	0.19	0.73	0.12	0.19	0.01
34.	Lakshadweep	0.50	0.00	0.50	0.00	0.23	0.03	0.43	0.05	0.15	0.00
35.	Pondicherry	1.20	0.48	1.20	0.06	1.20	1.01	2.05	1.41	0.45	0.28
Total		36939.24	10663.67	37247.76	12890.36	31632.66	12044.28	14418.79	10252.47	3056.99	2487.95

Statement II*Allocation and Offtake of Wheat Under Sampurna Gramin Rojgar Yojana (SGRY)*

(Fig. in '000 Tons)

SL.No.	States/UTs	2003-04		2004-05		2005-06		2006-07		2007-08 (Upto July, 07)	
		Allocation	Offtake	Allocation	Offtake	Allocation	Offtake	Allocation	Offtake	Allocation	Offtake
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3.	Assam	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.42	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4.	Bihar	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.38	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6.	Delhi	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7.	Goa	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
8.	Gujarat	223.36	300.77	141.33	63.48	85.80	32.14	53.19	45.71	21.25	8.51
9.	Haryana	60.75	53.97	61.53	56.36	45.20	48.38	36.82	36.80	17.24	3.74
10.	Himachal Pradesh	10.96	7.11	12.07	13.53	8.07	10.81	0.00	0.87	1.47	0.11
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	7.92	7.30	7.71	8.06	6.28	7.06	0.00	0.01	1.40	0.38
12.	Jharkhand	75.88	42.27	88.21	51.85	75.50	81.81	0.00	5.80	0.00	0.00
13.	Karnataka	23.78	18.36	37.60	33.58	29.26	33.12	0.00	0.00	7.16	0.69
14.	Kerala	20.56	12.31	30.61	33.40	21.89	26.97	0.00	0.53	0.00	0.00
15.	Madhya Pradesh	633.38	567.92	229.26	358.30	170.22	249.88	41.69	45.22	24.80	9.78
16.	Maharashtra	713.85	560.86	222.68	597.31	175.05	166.87	0.00	42.08	32.88	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
17.	Manipur	0.00	1.35	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
18.	Meghalaya	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
19.	Mizoram	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
20.	Nagaland	3.92	5.93	7.26	8.31	7.16	5.00	0.00	0.30	0.60	0.00
21.	Orissa	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
22.	Punjab	46.38	47.01	67.83	61.32	50.28	35.97	30.00	31.27	9.48	17.57
23.	Rajasthan	1582.60	2144.63	160.70	195.14	111.12	552.16	76.34	259.78	27.29	3.05
24.	Sikkim	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	11.49	0.00	0.13	0.00	0.00
25.	Tamilnadu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.29	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
26.	Tripura	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
27.	Uttar Pradesh	508.88	462.68	606.70	458.96	453.45	288.20	244.87	0.83	122.41	0.00
28.	Uttaranchal	23.16	40.57	25.56	28.02	18.58	19.29	6.41	7.61	3.31	0.00
29.	West Bengal	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
30.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
31.	Chandigarh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
33.	Daman and Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
34.	Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
35.	Pondicherry	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Total	3935.38	4273.04	1699.05	1973.00	1257.86	1570.86	489.32	476.94	269.38	43.83

Statement III

Allocation and Offtake of Wheat Under Special Component of SGRY

(Fig. in '000 Tons)

[illegible]

[illegible]

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
31.	Chandigarh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
33.	Daman and Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
34.	Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
35.	Pondicherry	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total		2279.05	2189.43	1118.00	790.04	714.80	982.34	170.40	20.68	0.00	164.31

Statement IV*Allocation and Offtake of Wheat Under MID DAY MEAL Scheme (MDM)*

(Fig. in '000 Tons)

Sl.No.	States/UTs	2003-04		2004-05		2005-06		2006-07		2007-08 (Upto July, 07)	
		Allocation	Offtake	Allocation	Offtake	Allocation	Offtake	Allocation	Offtake	Allocation	Offtake
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3.	Assam	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4.	Bihar	156.33	118.91	164.34	50.63	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6.	Delhi	17.99	5.26	10.78	5.74	10.08	7.25	9.79	8.12	9.79	0.98
7.	Goa	0.00	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
8.	Gujarat	30.05	19.40	30.11	24.53	33.96	29.59	37.74	31.09	33.74	5.79
9.	Haryana	22.94	20.65	23.04	12.53	14.34	6.93	16.45	8.02	16.45	1.91
10.	Himachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
12.	Jharkhand	4.36	2.59	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
13.	Karnataka	10.26	5.35	5.63	3.10	5.03	2.55	5.04	3.63	0.00	0.00
14.	Kerala	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
15.	Madhya Pradesh	128.08	116.88	120.91	103.93	144.62	125.24	144.64	124.13	144.64	25.48

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
16.	Maharashtra	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.53	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.38	0.00	0.00
17.	Manipur	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
18.	Meghalaya	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
19.	Mizoram	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
20.	Nagaland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.38	0.00	0.00
21.	Orissa	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
22.	Punjab	45.49	23.24	43.22	28.88	15.26	5.71	14.77	11.98	14.97	2.68
23.	Rajasthan	170.08	136.90	165.90	119.94	137.28	90.40	93.32	70.95	113.52	17.57
24.	Sikkim	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
25.	Tamilnadu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
26.	Tripura	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
27.	Uttar Pradesh	318.60	269.03	169.97	239.82	110.87	95.61	115.37	90.99	115.37	23.50
28.	Uttaranchal	3.11	1.05	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
29.	West Bengal	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
31.	Chandigarh	0.98	0.20	0.97	0.00	1.01	0.00	0.61	0.00	0.61	0.25
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
33.	Daman and Diu	0.00	0.04	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
34.	Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
35.	Pondicherry	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total		908.27	720.00	734.87	592.13	472.45	363.28	437.73	349.67	449.09	78.16

Statement V*Allocation and Offtake of Wheat Under Welfare Institutions and Hostels*

(Fig. in '000 Tons)

Sl.No.	States/UTs	2003-04		2004-05		2005-06		2006-07		2007-08 (Upto July, 07)	
		Allocation	Offtake	Allocation	Offtake	Allocation	Offtake	Allocation	Offtake	Allocation	Offtake
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	13.84	0.03	0.00	0.56	0.00	0.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.24	0.00	0.23	0.00	0.10	0.00	0.08	0.00	0.03	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
3.	Assam	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.01
4.	Bihar	66.60	0.00	66.60	0.00	26.40	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	6.48	0.03	5.65	5.87	2.12	0.59	0.60	0.00	0.20	0.01
6.	Delhi	5.64	0.00	5.61	0.00	2.04	0.00	0.32	0.03	0.11	0.04
7.	Goa	0.24	1.41	0.24	0.00	0.17	0.00	0.12	0.00	0.05	0.00
8.	Gujarat	27.84	1.10	26.99	27.09	15.64	2.27	7.80	6.07	2.60	1.71
9.	Haryana	13.08	0.13	13.56	0.38	5.59	0.13	0.13	0.02	0.05	0.01
10.	Himachal Pradesh	2.88	0.93	2.76	0.42	1.56	1.41	0.59	0.07	0.19	0.05
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	3.12	0.00	3.04	0.00	1.24	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
12.	Jharkhand	17.16	0.00	16.20	0.00	7.08	0.00	0.04	0.03	0.01	0.01
13.	Karnataka	29.39	3.40	10.00	3.34	8.21	3.11	21.01	4.37	2.27	0.36
14.	Kerala	0.00	0.00	6.28	1.13	2.39	0.08	0.73	0.19	0.25	0.07
15.	Madhya Pradesh	51.00	2.93	57.20	15.69	28.07	6.39	5.28	2.64	1.75	0.41
16.	Maharashtra	75.48	11.54	67.11	16.53	39.32	9.32	17.64	9.68	5.87	3.09
17.	Manipur	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.10	0.06	0.12	0.10	0.05	0.05
18.	Meghalaya	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.28	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
19.	Mizoram	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.19	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
20.	Nagaland	0.48	0.48	0.36	0.37	0.52	0.50	0.49	0.64	0.17	0.18
21.	Orissa	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.02	2.68	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.00	0.00
22.	Punjab	8.28	0.11	8.28	0.00	3.30	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.01	0.00
23.	Rajasthan	39.72	0.27	35.88	1.20	16.08	0.49	0.36	0.25	0.12	0.05
24.	Sikkim	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
25.	Tamilnadu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	7.76	0.91	0.00	0.47	0.00	0.00
26.	Tripura	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.14	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
27.	Uttar Pradesh	124.80	0.00	109.20	0.06	40.10	1.10	0.18	0.09	0.07	0.05
28.	Uttaranchal	3.24	0.50	3.24	0.00	1.22	0.00	0.08	0.00	0.00	0.00
29.	West Bengal	42.60	0.00	41.32	3.27	17.41	0.00	0.96	0.00	0.32	0.01
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.12	0.00	0.12	0.00	0.06	0.06	0.02	0.00	0.01	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
31.	Chandigarh	0.48	0.00	0.24	0.00	0.08	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.00	0.04	0.06	0.00	0.03	0.12	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00
33.	Daman and Diu	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
34.	Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
35.	Pondicherry	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.12	0.00	0.03	0.00
Total		518.87	22.88	480.19	75.37	243.85	26.63	56.72	25.24	14.16	6.11

Statement VI*Allocation and Offtake of Wheat Under Wheat Based Nutrition Programme (WBNP)*

(Fig. in '000 Tons)

Sl.No.	States/UTs	2003-04		2004-05		2005-06		2006-07		2007-08 (Upto July, 07)	
		Allocation	Offtake	Allocation	Offtake	Allocation	Offtake	Allocation	Offtake	Allocation	Offtake
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1.	Andhra Pradesh	32.73	26.67	29.00	26.60	28.00	27.73	16.00	14.53	20.00	0.86
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3.	Assam	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4.	Bihar	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	50.00	45.51	39.57	33.48	29.46	36.73	41.33	38.47	0.00	0.00
6.	Delhi	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.76	0.97	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00
7.	Goa	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
8.	Gujarat	31.00	30.49	40.00	27.93	31.50	10.04	20.00	21.90	35.00	4.53
9.	Haryana	0.90	7.67	1.72	56.23	0.87	2.19	1.00	1.01	0.70	0.14
10.	Himachal Pradesh	1.10	0.81	1.10	0.63	1.60	1.28	2.90	2.89	2.50	0.02
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.95	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
12.	Jharkhand	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
13.	Karnataka	35.00	3.42	19.20	5.46	3.10	4.70	10.00	2.21	11.00	0.00
14.	Kerala	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
15.	Madhya Pradesh	80.00	49.73	72.00	118.91	80.00	55.13	82.00	82.95	70.00	1.80

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
16.	Maharashtra	0.00	0.90	0.00	3.98	0.00	23.12	0.00	4.53	0.00	0.00
17.	Manipur	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
18.	Meghalaya	1.81	1.71	2.26	1.94	0.92	0.92	1.44	0.00	0.00	0.00
19.	Mizoram	8.80	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
20.	Nagaland	5.00	0.36	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.22	4.00	4.00	0.00	0.00
21.	Orissa	0.00	47.12	68.88	57.80	20.69	19.90	21.26	13.64	19.00	2.32
22.	Punjab	13.31	11.40	0.00	0.00	1.50	3.11	7.82	3.58	0.00	0.06
23.	Rajasthan	0.00	1.79	4.00	4.67	3.10	4.72	4.30	3.94	2.70	0.22
24.	Sikkim	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.96	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
25.	Tamilnadu	1.55	11.17	12.50	16.80	5.52	12.70	10.37	17.17	0.00	0.00
26.	Tripura	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
27.	Uttar Pradesh	106.14	8.52	51.66	0.00	73.54	48.31	87.40	80.52	140.00	22.43
28.	Uttaranchal	3.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.98	6.57	10.00	0.00	11.00	0.83
29.	West Bengal	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.85	0.00	11.42	0.00	2.00	0.00	0.00
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
31.	Chandigarh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.51	0.00	0.00
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.06	0.01	0.05	0.00	0.08	0.00	0.14	0.00	0.00	0.00
33.	Daman and Diu	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
34.	Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
35.	Pondicherry	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.59	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.00
	Total	372.45	247.28	341.94	356.87	281.62	273.47	319.96	293.86	311.90	33.21

Statement VH

Allocation and Offtake of Wheat Under Annapurna

(Fig. in '000 Tons)

[illegible]

[illegible]

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
31.	Chandigarh	0.00	0.00	0.06	0.00	0.06	0.00	0.06	0.00	0.06	0.00
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
33.	Daman and Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
34.	Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
35.	Pondicherry	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total		66.95	63.76	76.72	68.15	76.72	69.87	76.68	29.00	76.72	6.19

Statement VIII*Allocation and Offtake of Wheat Under Nutritional Programme for Adolescent Girls (NPAG)*

(Fig. in '000 Tons)

Sl.No.	States/UTs	2003-2004		2005-2006		2006-2007	
		Allocation	Offtake	Allocation	Offtake	Allocation	Offtake
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3.	Assam	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4.	Bihar	0.00	0.00	9.00	1.40	0.55	0.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6.	Delhi	2.80	0.07	1.15	0.06	0.16	0.06
7.	Goa	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.08
8.	Gujarat	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
9.	Haryana	5.10	0.00	2.00	1.33	0.60	0.53
10.	Himachal Pradesh	0.00	0.93	1.50	1.50	0.79	0.82
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	5.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
12.	Jharkhand	0.00	0.00	3.05	0.00	0.65	0.00
13.	Karnataka	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
14.	Kerala	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
15.	Madhya Pradesh	0.00	0.00	4.75	1.10	0.60	1.04
16.	Maharashtra	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.38

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
17.	Manipur	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
18.	Meghalaya	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
19.	Mizoram	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
20.	Nagaland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
21.	Orissa	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
22.	Punjab	1.20	0.11	2.10	0.00	0.75	0.48
23.	Rajasthan	13.70	0.00	4.05	1.95	1.54	1.55
24.	Sikkim	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
25.	Tamilnadu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
26.	Tripura	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
27.	Uttar Pradesh	1.10	0.50	5.30	0.86	1.01	0.00
28.	Uttaranchal	0.00	0.00	1.80	0.00	0.00	0.00
29.	West Bengal	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
31.	Chandigarh	0.00	0.00	0.50	0.00	0.11	0.00
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
33.	Daman and Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
34.	Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
35.	Pondicherry	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total		29.00	1.61	35.20	8.20	6.76	6.92

Statement IX*Allocation and Offtake of Wheat Under National Food for Work Programme (NFFWP)*

(Fig. in '000 Tons)

Sl.No.	State/UT	2004-2005		2005-2006		2006-2007	
		Allocation	Offtake	Allocation	Offtake	Allocation	Offtake
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
3.	Assam	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.39	0.00	0.13
4.	Bihar	0.00	0.00	2.37	0.00	0.00	0.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	0.00	0.00	0.00	13.41	0.00	0.44
6.	Delhi	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7.	Goa	0.00	0.87	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
8.	Gujarat	41.04	17.15	13.36	55.44	0.00	0.27
9.	Haryana	2.89	0.00	1.04	3.93	0.00	0.00
10.	Himachal Pradesh	1.39	0.30	1.67	1.72	0.00	0.00
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	1.49	0.00	1.80	0.07	0.00	0.00
12.	Jharkhand	66.56	2.44	27.76	37.63	0.00	3.31
13.	Karnataka	6.01	0.82	2.17	6.03	0.00	0.55
14.	Kerala	1.87	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
15.	Madhya Pradesh	107.79	0.00	126.89	112.39	0.00	4.31
16.	Maharashtra	63.66	9.86	19.02	73.74	0.00	6.94
17.	Manipur	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.30
18.	Meghalaya	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.30	0.00	0.30
19.	Mizoram	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
20.	Nagaland	1.49	0.00	0.00	0.49	0.00	0.00
21.	Orissa	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
22.	Punjab	7.36	20.20	2.66	0.22	0.00	4.02
23.	Rajasthan	36.27	4.91	43.66	34.60	0.00	0.00
24.	Sikkim	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
25.	Tamilnadu	0.00	6.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
26.	Tripura	0.00	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.04
27.	Uttar Pradesh	213.26	1.49	9.31	54.07	0.00	0.00
28.	Uttaranchal	3.49	0.80	0.99	2.62	0.00	0.00
29.	West Bengal	0.00	0.00	0.00	8.27	0.00	0.86
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
31.	Chandigarh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
33.	Daman and Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
34.	Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
35.	Pondicherry	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total		574.57	65.34	252.70	408.32	0.00	21.47

Remunerative Price for Agricultural Produces

*284. SHRI SATYANARAYAN JATIYA:
SHRIMATI RUPATAI D. PATIL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the policies and measures adopted by the Government for ensuring remunerative prices for agricultural produces alongwith the results achieved therefrom;

(b) the comparative figures of import price, procurement price with bonus and selling price of wheat during the last three years and thereafter;

(c) whether the procurement price and bonus paid for procurement of wheat is being reviewed to provide remunerative price to farmers and to ensure adequate procurement;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether payment of bonus for other agricultural produces is also being considered; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and progress made therein so far?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) The Government announces Minimum Support Prices (MSP) for specified agricultural produces on the basis of recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP), the views of the State Governments and Central Ministries as well as such other factors considered important for fixation of support prices. The

CACP, while formulating its recommendations on price policy considers important factors like cost of production, changes in input prices, productivity of different crops across States, demand-supply situation, domestic and international price trends, terms of trade between agriculture and non-agriculture sectors, need for crop diversification, resource use efficiency and food security.

The objective of the MSP mechanism is to provide a guarantee to the farmers to realize a reasonable and remunerative price for their produce. When the market prices tend to fall below the MSP, the designated agencies purchase the produce at the MSP. All the foodgrains conforming to the prescribed specifications offered for sale are bought by the public procurement agencies. However, if the market price is more than the MSP fixed by the Government, farmers are free to realize a higher price by selling their produce in the market.

(b) to (f) There was no import of wheat on Government account during 2005-06. To meet the requirement of wheat for the Public Distribution System (PDS) and other welfare schemes as well as to maintain buffer stock during 2006-07, 54.54 lakh tonnes of wheat was imported at a weighted average price of US \$ 204.66 per Metric Tonne (MT). As Government is committed to ensure food security, decision has been taken to import another 50 lakh tonnes during 2007-08. Already orders have been placed for importing 5.11 lakh MT of wheat at a weighted average price of US \$ 325.59 per MT.

For 2006-07, for wheat, a bonus of Rs. 50 per quintal was given over and above the MSP of Rs. 650 per quintal. The MSP was further raised to Rs. 750 per quintal for 2007-08 and a bonus of Rs. 100 per quintal was also given over and above the MSP.

There is no proposal to review the procurement price and bonus paid for procurement of wheat during Rabi

Marketing Season (RMS) 2007-08. A bonus of Rs. 40 per quintal over the MSP for 2007-08 was announced for procurement of kharif pulses such as arhar, moong and urad.

[English]

Productivity of Crops

*285. SHRIMATI YASHODHARA RAJE SCINDIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the comparative details of the trend in productivity of major crops such as rice, wheat, maize, pulses, oilseeds and millets in the country and in other developing countries during the last three years and thereafter; and

(b) the efforts being made by the Government to improve the productivity of these crops in the country and to bring them at par with the international levels?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) The comparative details of the trend in productivity of paddy, wheat, pulses *viz.* Chick Peas, Lentils and Dry Beans, oilseeds *viz.* Groundnut, Soyabean and Rapeseed & Mustard and millet in India and other developing countries from 2001 to 2005 (latest available) are given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) To increase cereals productivity, Centrally Sponsored Schemes the Integrated Cereals Development Programme (ICDP) in Rice, Wheat and Coarse Cereals are in place from October 2000. Under the schemes, assistance is provided on 90:10 basis between the Government of India and the State Governments for propagation of improved/hybrid production technology, pest management, farm implements, installation of sprinkler irrigation system, varietal replacement and production of certified seeds. Likewise, to increase the productivity of oilseeds, pulses and maize, the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of "Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize" (ISOPOM) is in place since 01.04.2004. Under this scheme, assistance is provided on 75:25 basis between the Government of India and the State Governments for production of breeder seed, foundation seed and certified seed, crash programme for quality seed production, distribution of certified seed and minikits, infrastructure development and integrated pest management.

The Government of India has recently approved two schemes *viz.* (i) National Food Security Mission (NFSM) for increasing the productivity and production of foodgrains, and (ii) Additional Central Assistance Scheme (ACAS) for incentivising the States to invest more in agriculture sector which in turn is expected to improve the over all growth of the sector.

Statement

Trend in Productivity of Major Crops in India and other Developing Countries

Crop/Country	Yield (Kg./Hectare)				
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
1	2	3	4	5	6
Paddy					
India	3116	2615	3225	2928	3284
China	6152	6186	6061	6309	6259
Argentina	5698	5746	5396	6265	6340
Mexico	4258	4503	4555	4463	5065
Egypt	9283	9389	9748	9838	9987
Maize					
India	2000	1679	1681	2041	1907

1	2	3	4	5	6
China	4700	4927	4815	5122	5288
Argentina	5455	6079	6477	6393	7359
Mexico	2578	2711	2753	2819	2727
Egypt	6980	7766	7829	7909	8120
Chick Peas					
India	744	853	717	811	815
China	3000	2800	4000	3891	4135
Argentina	1000	1000	1000	1073	1146
Mexico	1677	1595	1248	1414	1371
Egypt	1848	1852	1917	2017	2238
Lentil					
India	619	665	634	743	675
China	1087	1136	1467	2101	1929
Argentina	600	1500	1333	921	N.A.
Mexico	869	1222	683	802	891
Egypt	1679	1703	1625	1761	1771
Soyabean					
India	940	777	762	1193	908
China	1625	1893	1653	1815	1751
Argentina	2583	2644	2802	2200	2729
Mexico	1650	1532	1186	1490	1767
Egypt	2792	2990	3459	3027	3400
Wheat					
India	2708	2762	2610	2713	2802
China	3806	3777	3932	4252	4275
Argentina	2240	2033	2539	2630	2532
Mexico	4074	4099	4613	4769	4906
Egypt	6358	6435	6500	6557	6486
Millets					
India	900	627	1087	912	1000

1	2	3	4	5	6
China	1712	1909	1896	1979	2102
Argentina	1697	2033	1844	1571	1700
Mexico	800	1225	1250	1242	1259
Egypt	—	—	—	—	—
Beans, Dry					
India	383	370	428	375	333
China	1352	1435	1582	1511	1338
Argentina	1023	1083	1163	1255	1186
Mexico	626	754	743	693	952
Egypt	2707	2678	2666	2820	2658
Groundnut					
India	1154	694	1357	1020	1179
China	2685	3012	2655	3023	3074
Argentina	2246	2325	2018	2499	2824
Mexico	1505	1204	1760	1436	1210
Egypt	3237	3222	3166	3159	3065
Rapeseed & Mustard					
India	935	1002	854	1159	1038
China	1592	1475	1579	1810	1791
Argentina	1770	1046	1361	1250	1529
Mexico	1011	1011	1010	1252	1290
Egypt	—	—	—	—	—

Source: FAO website accessed on 30.8.2007.

Scheme for Small Scale Industries

*286. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN:
SHRI SURAJ SINGH:

Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the bank credits, Central grants and other sops provided by the Government to Small Scale Industries have since been discontinued;

(b) if so, the details alongwith the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Planning Commission has been approached for continuation of the such schemes during the Eleventh Plan period;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Planning Commission thereto; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to provide all necessary facilities to the ailing Small Scale Industries?

THE MINISTER OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The Working Group on Micro and Small Scale Enterprises and Agro & Rural Industries for the XI Five Year Plan (2007-12), constituted by the Planning Commission under the chairmanship of Secretary to the Government of India, Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, has submitted, *inter alia*, its recommendations to the Planning Commission for continuation of schemes during the XI Plan period. The list of the schemes recommended for continuation is enclosed as statement. The matter has been discussed with the officers and Members of the Planning Commission. It is expected that the Planning Commission would shortly take a decision in the matter. In the meantime, the Budget Estimate 2007-08 of the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises has estimated an expenditure of Rs. 1642 crore for the implementation of the schemes identified by the Ministry and the Planning Commission for continuation during the financial year 2007-08.

(e) To help the banks in detecting sickness at an early stage and taking early action for their revival, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) circulated detailed guidelines on rehabilitation of sick micro and small enterprises in January 2002. Further, in September 2005, the RBI has issued fresh guidelines to the banks on debt restructuring mechanism for small and medium enterprises (SMEs) to ensure debt restructuring of all eligible SMEs. In addition, the Government has taken a slew of measures including, *inter alia*, implementation of the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development Act, 2006, announcement of the package for promotion of Micro and Small Enterprises in February/March 2007, announcement of the package to step up credit to SMEs in August 2005 and announcement of the National Manufacturing Competitiveness Programme to facilitate the growth and competitiveness of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises in the country to increase the employment generation in the sector.

Statement

List of Tenth Plan Schemes/Programmes Recommended for Continuation

S.No.	Scheme/Programme
1	2
(a) Ministry of Small Scale Industries	
i. Small Scale Industries	
1.	SISIs
2.	Upgradation of Workshops to MTRs

1	2
3.	Advertising & Publicity
4.	Laghu Udyog Samachar
5.	SENET Project
II. Research Institutions	
1.	ESTC, Ram Nagar
2.	NGTC, Firozabad
3.	PPDC, Meerut
4.	PPDC, Agra
5.	PPDC, Kannauj
6.	IDEMI, Mumbai
7.	CITD, Hyderabad
III. Training Institutions & Training Programme	
1.	CFTI, Chennai
2.	CFTI, Agra
3.	MDP
4.	SIDO Officers Training Programme
5.	EDP
6.	WTO
7.	IPR
8.	National Award (EDP)
9.	TREAD
IV. Ancillary Development	
1.	Vendor Development Programme for Ancillarisation
V. Tool Rooms	
1.	CTR & TC, Kolkata
2.	CTR, Ludhiana
3.	IGTR, Ahmedabad
4.	IGTR, Aurangabad

1	2
5.	IGTR, Indore
6.	CTR & TC, Bhubneshwar
7.	IDTR, Jamshedpur
8.	HTI, Jalandhar
9.	HTI, Nagaur
10.	Technical Training Centre, Guwahati
VI. Marketing Assistance & E P	
1.	Publicity & Exhibition
2.	Export Promotion
3.	National Awards (Quality)
4.	MDA Scheme
VII. Testing Centres	
1.	RTCs
2.	FTSs
VIII. Technology Upgradation	
1.	Small Industry Cluster Development Programme
2.	ISO 9000 Reimbursement
3.	Modernization of SIDO Workshops
4.	Energy Conservation Programme
IX.	IID Scheme (subsumed in Small Industry Cluster Development Programme)
X.	Collection of Statistics
XI.	Credit Guarantee Scheme for SSI Sector
XII.	Credit Linked Cap. Subsidy Scheme
XIII.	Package for Promotion of Micro and Small Enterprises
	NSIC
I.	Other Grants
II.	Marketing Assistance Scheme

1	2
	Other Schemes
I.	Surveys, Studies & Policy Research
II.	International Cooperation
III.	Training Institutions
1.	NISIET, Hyderabad
2.	NIESBUD, Noida
3.	Assistance to EDIs
4.	IIE, Guwahati (NE Region)
5.	NCEUS
I.	National Commission on Enterprises in the Unorganised Sector
(b)	Ministry of Agro & Rural Industries
I.	KVIC
A.	Khadi
1.	Khadi Grant including MDA for Khadi (Rs. 10.00 crore)
2.	Khadi (S&T)
3.	Interest Subsidy (Khadi)
4.	Khadi Loan
B.	Village Industries (VI)
1.	VI Grant
2.	VI Grant (S&T)
3.	VI Loan
4.	Interest Subsidy (VI)
5.	REGP
II.	Coir Board
1.	Plan (S&T)
2.	Plan (General)
3.	Training Extension, Quality Improvement
4.	Mahila Coir Yojana & Welfare

1	2
III. PMRY Division, PMRY (Modified)	
1. PMRY subsidy	
2. Subsidy EDP	
VI. Scheme of Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries (SFURTI)	

Technology Mission

*287. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:
SHRI SUGRIB SINGH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has restructured and implemented the Technology Mission on Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the new technology introduced for increasing the production;

(d) whether the Government provides assistance under Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM) to various States;

(e) if so, the details and the criteria for allocation of assistance during 2005-06 and 2006-07 so far, scheme-wise; and

(f) the extent to which the Government has been able to achieve its aims so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) Government of India introduced the Technology Mission on Oilseeds in 1986 with a view to increasing the production and productivity of oilseeds and to make the country self reliant in edible oils. Subsequently, pulses, oil palm and maize were brought under the Technology Mission. However, the Mission was replaced by a Centrally Sponsored Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM) subsuming the erstwhile Oilseeds Production Programme (OPP), National Pulses Development Project (NPDP), Oil Palm Development

Programme (OPDP) and Accelerated Maize Development Programme (AMDP). ISOPOM is under implementation from 1.4.2004 in major oilseeds, pulses, maize and oil palm growing States.

(c) Production technologies such as application of micronutrients (sulphur, zinc, boron etc.) in deficient soils, nutrition through bio-fertilizers, Integrated Pest Management (IPM), sprinkler/drip irrigation, soil amelioration through application of gypsum/lime etc. have been promoted under ISOPOM for increasing the production of oilseeds, pulses, maize and oil palm in the country.

(d) and (e) Government of India provides financial assistance to ISOPOM implementing States on 75:25 sharing basis for various production inputs in order to promote the popularization of improved production technologies. State-wise allocation of funds is made on the basis of area under cultivation of oilseeds, pulses, oil palm and maize and contribution of individual States to the total production of these crops, besides past performance of the States in respect of physical and financial achievements. The details of funds allocated to States during 2005-06 and 2006-07 are given in the enclosed statement.

(f) The country has achieved a production of 238.84 lakh tonnes in oilseeds, 142.31 lakh tonnes in pulses and 149.79 lakh tonnes in maize respectively during the year 2006-07. As regards oil palm, an area expansion of 18176 hectare has been achieved during 2006-07.

Statement

Fund allocation to the States during 2005-06 and 2006-07 for implementation of ISOPOM

S.No.	Name of the State	Allocation (2005-06)	Allocation (2006-07)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4900.00	4542.00
2.	Assam	15.00	30.00
3.	Bihar	245.00	385.00
4.	Chhattisgarh	400.00	675.00
5.	Gujarat	1850.00	975.00
6.	Goa	16.50	3.00

1	2	3	4
7.	Haryana	434.00	411.00
8.	Himachal Pradesh	75.50	75.00
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	142.50	0.00
10.	Karnataka	1800.00	2700.00
11.	Kerala	7.50	15.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	2400.00	3750.00
13.	Maharashtra	2739.30	925.00
14.	Mizoram	90.00	180.00
15.	Orissa	500.00	525.00
16.	Punjab	87.50	0.00
17.	Rajasthan	2840.00	2934.50
18.	Tamil Nadu	1245.00	1345.00
19.	Tripura	20.00	40.00
20.	Uttar Pradesh	1065.00	1115.00
21.	West Bengal	450.00	674.50
Total		21322.80	21300.00

[Translation]

Sub-post Offices in Villages

*288. SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA:
SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages where sub-post offices are functioning in the country, as on date;

(b) the number of villages where sub-post offices have been opened during the Tenth Five Year Plan;

(c) the criteria for opening the post offices in the country;

(d) whether the criteria for opening post offices in rural and urban areas are different;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) The number of villages where Sub Post Offices are functioning in the country is 12,727.

(b) The number of villages where Sub-Post Offices have been opened during the Tenth Five Year plan is 35.

(c) The criteria for opening the post offices in the country is given in the enclosed Statement.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The reasons for having different criteria for opening post offices in rural and urban areas is to provide reasonable access to postal services for rural areas which would not be possible if norms for urban areas were to be applied.

(f) The norms have been fixed by the Government.

Statement

Norms for Opening Gramin Dak Sewak Branch Post Offices (Rural Areas)

1.1 Population:

(a) In Normal Areas:

3000 population in a group of villages [including the Proposed Post Office (PPO) village]

(b) In Hilly, Tribal, Desert and Inaccessible Areas:

500 population in an individual village or 1000 population in a group of villages.

1.2 Distance:

(a) In Normal Areas:

The minimum distance from the nearest existing post office will be 3 Kms.

(b) In Hilly, Tribal, Desert and Inaccessible Areas:

The distance limit will be the same as above except that in Hilly Areas, the minimum distance limit can be relaxed by the Directorate in cases where such relaxation is warranted by special circumstances which should be clearly explained while submitting a proposal.

1.3 Anticipated income:**(a) In Normal Areas:**

The minimum anticipated revenue will be 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ % of the cost.

(b) In Hilly, Tribal, Desert and Inaccessible Areas:

The minimum anticipated income will be 15% of the cost.

It is further to be ensured that as a result of the opening of a new post office, the loss in respect of the parent post office does not increase beyond the permissible limit nor is its income reduced below the minimum prescribed.

Norms for upgrading/opening Departmental Sub Post Offices:

2 (a) In Rural Areas:

The minimum work load of the Extra Departmental Branch Post Office, proposed to be upgraded, should be five hours per day. The permissible limit of annual loss is Rs.2400/- in Normal Rural areas and Rs.4800/- in Tribal and Hilly areas.

It is further to be ensured that as a result of the opening of a new post office, the loss in respect of the parent post office does not increase beyond the permissible limit nor is its income reduced below the minimum prescribed.

2 (b) In Urban Areas:

In urban areas, the post office should initially be self-supporting, and, at the time of the first annual review, it should show a 5% profit to be eligible for further retention.

The minimum distance between two post offices should be 1.5 Kms. in cities with a population of 20 lakhs and above, and 2 Kms. in other Urban Areas. No two delivery offices, however, should be closer than 5 Kms. from each other.

A Delivery Post Office in Urban Area should have a minimum of 7 Postmen's beats.

Pre-paid Connections without Verification

*289. SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK:
SHRI CHANDRA MANI TRIPATHI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the private telecom companies are issuing pre-paid connections on the basis of incomplete documents in a bid to expand their market;

(b) if so, whether the SIM-cards issued in this manner are being used for illegal and terrorism-related activities;

(c) if so, whether the Government has issued any guidelines to private telecom companies in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the manner in which the private companies are complying with the guidelines?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (d) Sir, some instances came to the notice of Department of Telecommunications (DoT) that certain mobile service providers are not complying fully with the instructions issued by DoT from time to time on subscriber verification giving rise to possibility that some of the mobile phones may be used for illegal and terrorism-related activities.

Special drives were conducted to ascertain the status of subscriber verification through sample checks. Based on the observations of special drive, the matter was reviewed and directions were issued to service providers to disconnect by 31st March, 2007 such connections that have been provided without proper verification.

DoT carried out the auditing of the subscriber verification by service providers and found certain discrepancies and show-cause notices have been issued to the concerned service providers.

[English]

Functioning of Food Corporation of India

*290. SHRI M. RAJA MOHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of profit earned or loss incurred by Food Corporation of India (FCI) during each of the last three years;

(b) the reasons for the losses; and

(c) the extent of storage capacity available with FCI in each of the last three years and also at present?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) The Food Corporation of India (FCI) operates on "No Profit, No loss" basis. The FCI procures foodgrains at the procurement price (Minimum Support Price plus applicable Bonus) fixed by the Government and delivers the same to the State Governments for the TPDS and Welfare Schemes at prices which are lower than the economic cost of the FCI (except for Defence and SGRY). This difference in expenditure of FCI and its sales realizations is reimbursed by the Government in the form of food subsidy.

(c) The total storage capacity available with FCI (Covered/CAP/Owned/Hired) for the last three years and the current year is as under:

(Figures in Million tones)

Year as on 31/3	Total storage capacity (Covered/CAP/Owned/Hired)
2004-05	26.03
2005-06	25.56
2006-07	25.20
2007-08 (As on 30.6.2007)	24.75

Rehabilitation of Disabled Soldiers

*291. SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU:
SHRI JASUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of disabled soldiers, as on date, across the country who need to be rehabilitated;

(b) whether the Defence Ministry has taken a number of steps to rehabilitate the disabled soldiers and war widows;

(c) if so, the details thereof indicating the number of persons rehabilitated during the last three years, year-wise;

(d) whether the Defence Ministry has also requested the Government to provide reservation in jobs for the disabled soldiers and war widows; and

(e) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY):

(a) to (e) The number of disabled soldiers in the country as on 1.4.06 is 2,78,301. Out of them 241 disabled soldiers are on live register of ex-servicemen cell of Directorate General of Employment & Training, Ministry of Labour awaiting employment assistance upto July, 2007.

Resettlement of disabled soldiers is an ongoing process. The Government has the following schemes in this regard:

ECONOMIC REHABILITATION

(i) Coal Tipper Scheme

Eligible widows/disabled soldiers can participate in a self-employment scheme under which they are required to make a deposit of Rs. 85,000 with any of the coal transport company nominated by Directorate General of Resettlement (DGR). The nominated coal transport company pays Rs. 3000 per month to the widows/disabled soldiers for 5 years and thereafter refunds the amount of Rs. 85,000 deposited by them.

(ii) Allotment of Oil Product Agencies

Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has reserved 8% of the Oil Product Agencies, i.e. LPG dealership, petrol pumps, kerosene distributorship etc. in the marketing plan for widows and dependents of those who died in war/peace with death attributable to Military service and disabled soldiers.

The number of persons who have benefited from the above schemes during the last three years is indicated below:

(i) Coal Tipper Scheme

The number of widows/disabled ex-servicemen benefited by the scheme.

	Widows	Disabled	Total
2005	98	08	106
2006	69	15	84
2007	97	34	131 till date

(ii) Allotment Of Oil Product Agencies

Number of eligibility certificates issued by Directorate General of Resettlement to widows/dependents/disabled soldiers:

	Widows/ dependents	Disabled	Total
2005	336	106	442
2006	123	32	155
2007	33	15	48

Health Rehabilitation

The number of disabled soldiers who have been provided artificial limbs is as given below:

Year	No. of disabled soldiers provided Artificial Limbs	No. of families provided with Artificial Limbs
2005	1389	309
2006	1663	245
2007 till June	813	146

The number of disabled soldiers rehabilitated at various Paraplegic Centres and Cheshire Homes during the last three years are as under:

	2004-2005	2005-2006	2006-2007
PRC Kirkee	75	73	78
PRC Mohali	26	35	38
St. Dunstan's	112	75	98
Cheshire Homes	21	19	19
War Memorial Hostels (For wards of war widows/war disabled)	563	509	480
Motor Tricycles	0	10	10

Besides, disabled soldiers are also encouraged to avail the benefit of loan assistance on liberalised terms under self-employment schemes from financial institutions/banks.

There is no separate reservation for disabled ex-servicemen who are fit for employment. However, reservation is available to handicapped persons including disabled ex-servicemen in appointment to Group C & D posts filled through direct recruitment to the extent of 3% (1% each for the blind, deaf and orthopaedically handicapped). The Central Government has also reserved 10% of vacancies in Group 'C' posts and 20% in Group 'D' posts for Ex-Servicemen. Central Public Sector Undertakings and Nationalised Banks provide 14.5% reservation in Group 'C' and 24.5% in Group 'D' posts with them. Besides 10% vacancies of Assistant Commandants in Para Military Forces are also reserved for Ex-Servicemen.

Agricultural Reforms

*292. SHRI PARAS NATH YADAV:
SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some States are lagging behind others in the implementation of agricultural reforms in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to implement the agricultural reforms in such States?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (c) The major reforms initiated by the Government of India for the Agriculture Sector relate mainly to agricultural marketing, Short term rural Cooperative Credit Structure and agricultural extension.

The States of Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Nagaland, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tripura and Uttar Pradesh have notified the amendments in their Agriculture Produce Marketing Committee (APMC) Acts and the amended Act of Punjab is applicable in the Union

Territories of Chandigarh also. The APMC Act implemented by the State Government of Tamil Nadu is believed to be providing for the reforms suggested in the model Act. The Government of Bihar has repealed its APMC Act with effect from 1st September, 2006. There is no APMC Act in the States/UTs of Kerala, Manipur, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu and Lakshadweep and hence they do not require any amendments. The State Governments of Haryana and NCT of Delhi have undertaken reforms partially, by amending their APMC Acts. Many of the States which have amended their APMC Acts, are yet to notify the amended APMC Rules thereunder. Only the States of Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Punjab and Orissa have notified such amended Rules so far.

The Government of India has formulated a Revival Package for strengthening/revitalizing Short Term Cooperative Credit Structure based on the recommendations of the Task Force headed by Prof. Vaidyanathan, and sought participation of all the State Governments in implementing the package.

So far, 18 States and one Union Territory have agreed to implement the Package, out of which, 12 States *viz* Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Orissa, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal have signed the MoU with Gol and NABARD.

The Scheme "Support to State Extension Programme for Extension Reforms" was launched in May, 2005. Its objective is to support State's efforts in revitalization of the Extension System by promoting decentralized and farmer friendly extension system. An autonomous body by the name Agriculture Technology Management Agency (ATMA) is set up at the district level for implementation of the scheme. It is being implemented in 321 districts of 27 States and 2 Union Territories as on date. The States namely - Delhi, Meghalaya, Jammu & Kashmir and Kerala have not submitted their State Extension Work Plans since inception of the scheme except for the work plan of 3 suicide affected districts of Kerala which was approved during 2006-07.

Efforts are on by the Central Government to get these reforms implemented in all the States.

Agricultural Credit Reforms for Farm Productivity

*293. SHRI K.J.S.P. REDDY:

SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether agricultural credit reforms have been identified as the primary pathway for enhancing farm productivity and profitability of farmers; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard alongwith the success achieved therein?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) Government is of the view that the full potential of agriculture as a profitable activity must be realized at the earliest to benefit the farmers. Among the factors that will help in realizing this full potential is access to institutional credit in hassle free manner at lower rate of interest. The Government of India has, in recent years, in consultation with the Reserve Bank of India and NABARD, initiated several steps to ensure that the various financial services from banks are extended to the poor farmers. Some of the important measures in this regard are:-

1. On 18th June, 2004, the Government of India announced a comprehensive Farm Credit Package stipulating, among other things, that the Scheduled Banks (Commercial Banks and RRBs) may finance 50 lakh new farmers each year, besides doubling the flow of farm credit in three years beginning 2003-04. The ground level farm credit flow during 2003-04 to 2006-07 and number of new farmers financed by the scheduled banks during 2004-05 to 2006-07 are indicated below:

Year	Total Ground Level Credit (Rs. in crore)	New farmers financed (in lakhs)
2003-04	86981	—
2004-05	125309	79
2005-06	180486	79
2006-07	203297	84

2. Banks have been advised to simplify the procedure for documentation for agricultural loans.

3. Considering that high rates of interest often act as a deterrent to farmers (particularly SF/MF/TF) for availing farm credit, the Hon'ble Union Minister of Finance, had announced in the Union Budget (2006-07), that henceforth crop loans upto Rs. 3 lakh may be provided at 7% at the ground level. Accordingly, crop loans are presently being made available at 7% at the ground level by all agencies. The two per cent interest subvention scheme for short-term crop loans has been continued in 2007-08 also and a provision of Rs. 1,677 crore has been made for this purpose.

4. Loans upto Rs. 50,000 have been made collateral and margin free.

5. Banks have been advised to provide all eligible farmers with Kisan Credit Cards to enable them to have hassle free access to credit. Banks have issued 96.80 lakh, 80.12 lakh and 74.70 lakh fresh KCC during the last three years. The banks cumulatively have issued 665.64 lakh KCCs at the end of 31st March, 2007.

6. Cooperatives, which have so far catered to the financial needs of the small and marginal farmers, have not been able to perform satisfactorily during the last few years on account of financial, structural and managerial weaknesses. In order to revive the short-term rural cooperative credit institutions, a package of measures, as recommended by the Vaidyanathan Committee is under implementation. So far, 18 States and 1 Union Territory have conveyed their acceptance of the Package which includes financial support, human resource skill improvement and systems upgradation, associated with legal reforms.

Identification of below Poverty line Families

*294. ADV. SURESH KURUP: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a huge gap in the actual number of Below Poverty Line (BPL) families identified by various State Governments and those assessed by the Union

Government for being included under Public Distribution System (PDS);

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor, State-wise; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to rectify this anomaly?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) The Planning Commission estimates poverty across all the States in the country by following a uniform methodology. The Government allocates foodgrains to States and UTs under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) for the number of Below Poverty Line (BPL) households worked out on the basis of poverty estimates of the Planning Commission for 1993-94 projected on the population estimate of Registrar General of India as on March, 2000 or the number of ration cards issued to households by State Governments and UT Administrations, whichever is less. The number of BPL households worked out on the above basis for allocation of foodgrains under the TPDS is 6.52 crores.

Under the provisions of Public Distribution System (Control), 2001, the State Governments and UT Administrations identify the BPL households in their respective States and UTs and issue ration cards to them. As against the accepted number of 6.52 crores BPL households (including Antyodaya Anna Yojana) for allocations under the TPDS, State Governments and UT Administrations have actually issued 10.17 crores BPL cards. The details are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) Based on results of 61st round of National Sample Survey on Consumer Expenditure (2004-05), the Planning Commission has released (in March 2007) poverty estimates for 2004-05. According to these estimates, the population living below poverty line is 27.5% as against 36% in 1993-94. If these poverty estimates of 2004-05 are projected on population estimates of March, 2006, the number of BPL households works out to about 5.77 crores, which is lower than the presently accepted number of 6.52 crores. At present, allocation of wheat and rice are based on the existing criteria.

Statement*Number of BPL Households and Ration Cards Issued as on 31.07.2007*

Sl.No.	State/UT	No. of BPL Households In 2000 (In Lakh)#	BPL Ration Cards Issued (In Lakhs) (By the Respective State/UT)			Ration Cards Issued in Excess
			BPL	AAY	Total	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	40.63	169.73	15.58	185.31	144.68
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.99	0.61	0.38	0.99	0.00
3.	Assam	18.36	12.02	7.04	19.06	0.70
4.	Bihar	65.23	40.70	24.29	64.99	-0.24
5.	Chhattisgarh	18.75	15.46	7.19	22.65	3.90
6.	Delhi	4.09	3.83	0.56	4.39	0.30
7.	Goa	0.48	0.13	0.15	0.28	-0.20
8.	Gujarat	21.20	26.84	8.10	34.94	13.74
9.	Haryana	7.89	5.36	2.92	8.28	0.39
10.	Himachal Pradesh	5.14	3.17	1.97	5.14	0.00
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	7.36	4.80	2.56	7.36	0.00
12.	Jharkhand	23.94	16.68	7.27	23.95	0.01
13.	Karnataka	31.29	57.94	12.00	69.94	38.65
14.	Kerala	15.54	14.90	5.96	20.86	5.32
15.	Madhya Pradesh	41.25	36.22	15.82	52.04	10.79
16.	Maharashtra	65.34	48.89	24.10	72.99	7.65
17.	Manipur	1.66	1.16	0.50	1.66	0.00
18.	Meghalaya	1.83	1.13	0.70	1.83	0.00
19.	Mizoram	0.68	0.42	0.26	0.68	0.00
20.	Nagaland	1.24	0.77	0.47	1.24	0.00
21.	Orissa	32.98	37.49	12.65	50.14	17.16
22.	Punjab	4.68	3.49	1.79	5.28	0.60
23.	Rajasthan	24.31	16.53	9.32	25.85	1.54

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
24.	Sikkim	0.43	0.27	0.16	0.43	0.00
25.	Tamilnadu	48.63	149.65	18.65	168.30	119.67
26.	Tripura	2.95	1.82	1.13	2.95	0.00
27.	Uttar Pradesh	106.79	65.84	40.95	106.79	0.00
28.	Uttaranchal	4.98	3.47	1.51	4.98	0.00
29.	West Bengal	51.79	37.77	14.80	52.57	0.78
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.28	0.12	0.04	0.16	-0.12
31.	Chandigarh	0.23	0.06	0.02	0.08	-0.15
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.18	0.13	0.05	0.18	0.00
33.	Daman and Diu	0.04	0.01	0.01	0.02	-0.02
34.	Lakshadweep	0.03	0.02	0.012	0.03	0.00
35.	Pondicherry	0.84	1.02	0.32	1.34	0.50
Total		652.03	778.45	239.23	1017.68	365.65

#Accepted number of BPL households for issue of ration cards: 652.03 Lakhs. These figures include AAY also.

Protection for Fishermen by the Coast Guard

*295. SHRI NARAHARI MAHATO: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Coast Guard has the responsibility to protect the fishermen and to guide them in sensitive places near the borders of other countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to ensure that the fishermen do not stray into the waters of any nearby country;

(c) whether the Coast Guard has shown desired results in protecting and guiding our fishermen; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps, if any, proposed to review the functioning of Coast Guard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY):

(a) to (d) The duties of Indian Coast Guard *inter alia* include providing protection to fishermen including assistance to them at sea while in distress in the maritime zone of India.

Indian Coast Guard ships and aircraft regularly carry out surveillances and patrolling in the Indian Maritime Zone and along the International Maritime Boundary Line (IMBL). They also guide the Indian fishermen boats found crossing the IMBL. Besides patrolling, the Indian Coast Guard also undertakes community interaction programme wherein the fishermen living in the coastal villages are educated about the perils of crossing IMBL, i.e., apprehension by the security agencies, firing upon by terrorist groups and issues like safety at sea, search and rescue procedure, use of available communication and safety equipment at sea.

579 Indian fishermen and 99 boats were apprehended by the Sri Lanka and Pakistan in the year 2004. Due to regular surveillance by Coast Guard, this has decreased to 301 fishermen and 49 boats in the year 2006. As on date, 56 Indian fishermen and 15 boats have been apprehended by these countries during the current year 2007. There have been number of occasions wherein Coast Guard has proactively rescued Indian fishermen. Director General Coast Guard and Regional Commanders through reviews and field visits regularly monitor the working of the field force.

*[Translation]***Review of Antyodaya Anna Yojana**

*296. SHRI SRICHAND KRIPLANI:
SHRI ANANT GUDHE:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has recently reviewed the Antyodaya Anna Scheme;

(b) if so, the details and the outcome thereof;

(c) the allocation and release of subsidy under the said scheme during the last three years and thereafter, State-wise and year-wise;

(d) whether requests have been received from some States for increasing the subsidy being provided to the States under the said scheme; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) were got evaluated by ORG MARG, New Delhi. About the AAY, the evaluation report received in September, 2005 stated "overall, grains earmarked for AAY category seem to have remained intact and sold as per prescribed pricing".

(c) to (e) Release of food subsidy to FCI by the Government is not made on State-wise basis. The food subsidy released under the TPDS for AAY during the last three years has been as under:-

Year	Subsidy released (Rs. in Crore)
2004-05	4968
2005-06	6418
2006-07	7853

Under this scheme, since the State Governments/UT Administrations are not allowed to charge any margin above the Central Issue Price of Rs. 3 per kg. for rice and Rs. 2 per kg. for wheat, and the cost of handling/transport etc. are to be met by State Governments, requests were received from some State Governments and Fair Price Shop Dealers' Federation for payment of commission by the Government of India. However, the Government has not accepted these requests.

Suicide by Women Officers in Army

*297. SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the incidents of suicide by women officers in the Army has increased in the recent years;

(b) if so, the details of the suicide cases committed during the last three years;

(c) whether the Government has conducted in-depth enquiry into such incidents; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the details of the steps taken by the Government to check such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (d) There have been only 3 isolated cases of suicide by Women Officers in the last 3 years in the Army. The details regarding the three cases of suicide are as follows:

Sl. No.	Name of the women officer who committed suicide	Details of the individual officer	Date of incident
1.	Major Shobha Rani	Army Medical Corps, posted at Command Hospital (Air Force) Bangalore	29.5.2006
2.	Lt. Sushmita Chakraborty	5071 Army Service Corps Battalion	15.6.2006
3.	Capt. Megha Razdan	113 Engineer Regiment	1.7.2007

Every such incident is inquired into by a Court of Inquiry. The Courts of Inquiry conducted in the first two suicide cases of women officers during the year 2006, have revealed that factors like personal reasons, depression and psychological adjustment disorder etc. led to the incidents.

2. The following measures have been adopted by the Army to prevent such incidents:-

- (i) Increased formal and informal interaction between senior and junior officers, improved accessibility of leaders and frequent interaction of junior leaders with soldiers, better man management and prompt attention to grievances;
- (ii) Strengthening time tested reporting and feedback system in the unit;
- (iii) Liberalized leave policy to attend to domestic problems;
- (iv) Identification and counselling of persons who show signs of stress by Regimental Medical Officers, junior leaders and unit commanders.
- (v) Psychological counselling by psychiatrists where required.
- (vi) Training capsules in relaxation exercise including yoga/meditation.
- (vii) Post Army Medical corps Junior Commissioned Officers as psychological counsellors who will interact with the troops and alleviate their stress related problems.
- (viii) Committees have been established at Army, Command, Corps and Divisional Headquarters level to monitor and analyse stress related incidents and periodically review measures to be adopted. At Army Headquarters, the Committee is headed by Director General (Discipline, Ceremonial & Welfare).

3. Apart from the above, the following steps have been taken to address grievances specific to Women officers:

- (a) Women officers are treated at par with similarly placed male counterparts in terms of recruitment,

training, tenure of service, promotion, pay and perks, leave, welfare measures etc.

- (b) Commanders at all levels have been instructed to be more sensitive to the tasks being assigned to the lady officers with special focus on (i) providing an honourable working environment (ii) being sensitive to the constraints faced by lady officers in performing certain specified tasks and (iii) keeping in mind displayed aptitudes while assigning non-core duties.
- (c) Women officers are provided with separate living accommodation in the Officers Mess.
- (d) Adequate grievance redressal mechanism has been put in place to address complaints of sexual harassment and other complaints of lady officers.
- (e) Women officers are free to approach their Commanding Officers/Supervisors at any time to discuss their personal/official problems and seek immediate assistance.
- (f) Instructions have been issued that displayed aptitudes of individuals should be kept in mind while assigning non core duties to lady officers.

[English]

Artificial Recharge of Water in Hard Rock Areas

*298. SHRI HARIBHAU JAWALE: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government has proposed a scheme of Rs. 1800 crores of artificial recharge of water in hard rock areas in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government also proposes to cover alluvial areas under the scheme; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ): (a) and (b) The Union Finance Minister in his Budget Speech for 2007-08 had announced a scheme at a cost of Rs.1800 crores for ground water recharge through dugwells in Over-Exploited and Critical

blocks in Hard Rock areas of 7 identified States namely, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh. The scheme envisages 100% subsidy to small and marginal farmers and 50% subsidy to other farmers.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Return on Agricultural Investment

*299. SHRI FRANCIS FANTHOM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is examining any proposal to link the cost of agricultural produce to the rate of inflation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the return on investment in agriculture is much lower than that in any industry;

(d) if so, whether any study has been conducted to ascertain the reasons for the same;

(e) if so, the details and the outcome thereof; and

(f) the steps taken to correlate the return on investment in agriculture to the one that obtains in industry?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) There is no such proposal. However, it may be stated that the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACPC) recommends Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) based on a number of factors including cost of production, market prices (both domestic and international), rise in input prices and inter-sectoral terms of trade.

(c) to (f) The return on the investment in agriculture and industry are not comparable since the production conditions, technology, impact of natural resources and climate, scale of operations and demand and supply factors etc. differ considerably for agriculture and industry. Government has not conducted any specific study on comparison of return of investment in agriculture and industry. However, several steps have been taken by the Government to boost the agricultural growth and return

on investment in agriculture. These include declaration of MSPs before sowing season, measures to improve production and productivity of various agricultural commodities through ensuring easy availability of credit, irrigation facilities, crop diversification, marketing infrastructure and extension services. Further, the National Development Council (NDC) in its 53rd meeting held on 29th May, 2007 has resolved, *inter-alia*, the following:

- Launching of a Food Security Mission covering wheat, rice and pulses aimed at producing an additional 8 million tonnes of wheat, 10 million tonnes of rice and 2 million tonnes of pulses.
- Introducing a new scheme for Additional Central Assistance (ACA) to State Plans. The newly created National Rainfed Area Authority (NRAA) would assist States in planning for rainfed areas.
- To provide additional resources for irrigation.
- Strategic focus on the national agriculture research effort.
- To take new initiatives for skill development in the farming community.
- The State Governments are to prepare District and State Agricultural Plans for prioritizing investment in the sector.

In this regard, the Government of India has initiated two schemes for increasing agricultural production and productivity and investment in the sector. These are (i) National Food Security Mission (NFSM) and (ii) Additional Central Assistance Scheme (ACAS) to incentivise States to invest more based on State and District Plans for agricultural development.

Sugarcane Growers

*300. SHRI P.C. GADDIGOUDAR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether sugarcane prices paid to farmers varies from State to State;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any study has been conducted to ascertain the problems being faced by sugarcane farmers and sugar factories;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken to mitigate these problems and to ensure uniform price to sugarcane farmers?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Statutory Minimum Price (SMP) of sugarcane is fixed by the Government which is applicable to the whole of the country. However, SMP payable to the cane growers by sugar factories varies from factory to factory, based on the recovery of sugar of each factory.

Some of the States, however, announce State Advised Price (SAP) for payment of sugarcane price to growers by sugar factories which are generally higher than the SMP fixed by the Central Government.

(b) The SMP payable to the sugarcane farmers is fixed factory-wise and not State-wise. The SMP payable by sugar factories (in respect of those factories who have furnished required information) for the sugar year 2006-07 has been published in the Gazette of India on 22nd December, 2006 and 30th May, 2007 which have been laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha on 12th March, 2007 and 20th August, 2007, respectively.

SAPs announced by the State Governments for the sugar season 2006-07 as reported are as follows:-

State	SAP (Rs. Per quintal)
Punjab	132.00 (early varieties)
	128.00 (mid varieties)
	126.00 (late varieties)
Haryana	138.00 (early varieties)
	128.00 (mid varieties)
	124.00 (late varieties)
Tamil Nadu	102.50 (linked to 9% with increase of Rs. 0.90 for every one point increase in recovery above 9%).
Uttar Pradesh	130.00 (early varieties)
	125.00 (other varieties)
Uttarakhand	130.00 (early varieties)
	125.00 (other varieties)

(c) The Government has not conducted any such study.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The SAPs, announced by the States, are seldom based on any economic criteria. Due to the high SAPs, farmers are attracted to shift their cultivation to sugarcane which leads to higher production of cane and sugar much beyond the needs of the economy resulting in depressed sugar prices. This results in losses to sugar factories and in accumulation of sugarcane price arrears. After a few sugar seasons, it results in sharp drop in sugarcane area resulting in fall in sugar production and consequent rise of prices. This contributes to significant volatility to sugarcane and sugar prices. To moderate the situation, the Central Government had, while giving "one time assistance" to the States in January, 2004 and while giving permission to raise "additional open market borrowings" for payment of cane price arrears during March, 2004 to December, 2005, prescribed that States would not announce SAP if they are to avail the benefit. Some States continued to announce the SAP.

In view of the above, it has not been possible to ensure payment of uniform price to the sugarcane farmers.

Antiretroviral Drugs to Children

*301. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the estimated number of people living with HIV/AIDS in the country is col. 7 million as per the report jointly released recently by World Health Organisation (WHO), UNAIDS and UNICEF;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the National AIDS Control Organisation has started giving free paediatric doses of antiretroviral drugs to children under the National Programme; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government to provide treatment to all the HIV and AIDS patients?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) to (d) In its report on the Global AIDS epidemic published by UNAIDS in May, 2006, 5.7 million persons were estimated to be living with HIV/AIDS in India. During 2007, NACO reviewed the estimation method in consultation with national and international experts from UNAIDS, WHO, CDC Atlanta etc. The review was carried out keeping in mind the availability of data based on National Family Health Survey-III, Integrated Biological and Behaviour Survey in High Risk Groups and an expanded sentinel surveillance. Following the expert consultation, NACO estimated that persons living with HIV/AIDS in India range between 2.1 to 3 million. Of them, it is estimated that there are 70,000 children below 15 years of age who are living with the virus. These estimates have been accepted and endorsed by WHO, UNAIDS, World Bank and CDC Atlanta.

In order to ensure universal access of treatment to children, the National Paediatric AIDS Initiative was launched on 30th November 2006. Under this Initiative, free paediatric doses of Anti-retroviral (ARV) drugs and free diagnostics are provided. Special campaigns were launched to screen high risk children so as to detect and treat HIV infected children. Till date, 22,217 new HIV+ children have been detected and 6338 children eligible put on ART at 127 ART centres in 31 States of the country. The paediatric formulations of ARVs for 17,000 children have been made available at these centres. This Initiative also includes developing paediatric ART guidelines, training of pediatricians and counselors, establishment of seven Regional Paediatric ART centres, free CD4 monitoring, free DNA PCR test for children up to 18 months, liquid formulations for babies weighing less than 5 kg, diagnosis and treatment of opportunistic infections and micro-nutrient supplementation.

Environmental Clearance for Gas-based Power Projects

*302. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of gas-based power projects which have been granted environmental clearance by the Union Government during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise;

(b) the norms/criteria/methodology fixed for granting the clearances;

(c) the number of projects still pending with the Union Government and the reasons for their pendency, State-wise; and

(d) the time by which these projects are likely to be cleared by the Union Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Details of gas-based power projects which have been granted environmental clearance during 1 January, 2004 to 31 July, 2007 is given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) All gas-based power plants have to obtain environmental clearance as per the provisions of the EIA notification of 2006. Plants with capacity less than 500 MW are to be appraised at the State level and those equal to or more than 500 MW are to be appraised at the Central level. The projects are appraised by the duly constituted Expert Appraisal Committee for thermal power projects based on the Environmental Impact Assessment report submitted by the project proponent and any other such information as is felt necessary by the Environment Appraisal Committee. Based on the recommendations of the Environment Appraisal Committee a decision is taken regarding environmental clearance.

(c) Three gas-based thermal power projects one from Madhya Pradesh and two from Maharashtra are pending with the Ministry of Environment and Forests as on 31st July, 2007. These projects are pending for want of requisite information/clarifications from the project proponent.

(d) These projects will be considered after receipt of requisite information from the project proponents.

Statement

List of gas-based power projects granted Environment Clearance during 1st January, 2004 to 31st July, 2007.

S.No.	Name of the project	Date of clearance
1	2	3
Year-2004		
Andhra Pradesh		
1.	850 MW Expansion of Power Plant in Kondapalli, Ibrahimpatnam Mandal, Andhra Pradesh by M/s Lanco Kondapalli Power Pvt. Ltd.	20.8.2004
Gujarat		
2.	1050 MW Combined Cycle Power Plant at Akhakhol, District Surat of M/s Torrent Power Generation Ltd.	12.7.2004
Tamil Nadu		
3.	52.8 MW G.B.CCPP at Vazhuthur, District Ramanathapuram of M/s Arkay Energy Ltd.	18.5.2004
Year-2005		
Gujarat		
1.	Kawas Gas Based Combined Cycle Expansion Power Project (1300 MW) - Stage-II at Mora, Surat, Gujarat by M/s National Thermal Power Corporation	30.5.2005
2.	MW Gandhar Gas Based Combined Cycle Expansion Power Project—Stage-II at Jhanor, Bharuch, Gujarat by M/s National Thermal Power Corporation	10.6.2005
Maharashtra		
3.	1040 MW Combined Cycle Gas Turbine Uran Expansion Thermal Power Project at Uran, Maharashtra by M/s Maharashtra State Electricity Board	23.6.2005
Rajasthan		
4.	330 MW Dholpur Gas Based Combined Cycle Thermal Power Project at Dholpur, Rajasthan of M/s Rajasthan Rajya Vidyut Utpadan Nigam Ltd. (RRVUNL)	10.6.2005
Tamil Nadu		
5.	WW Gas Based Combined Cycle Thermal Power Plant, Unit-II at vill. Vazuthur, District Ramanathapuram, Tamil Nadu of M/s Arkay Energy Ltd.	20.12.2005
Uttar Pradesh		
6.	7480 MW Natural Gas Based Combined Cycle Power Project near Dehra village in Ghaziabad District of U.P. State by M/s Reliance Energy Generation Ltd.	29.6.2005

1	2	3
Year-2006		
Gujarat		
1.	525 MW Gas Based Captive Power Plant at Hazira, District Surat, Gujarat by M/s Essar Steel Limited	21.9.2006
2.	1500 MW NG/NGL/Naptha/LNG based Combined Cycle Thermal Power Plant at Hazira, Surat, Gujarat of M/s Essar Power Ltd.	21.9.2006
Karnataka		
3.	1400 MW Bidadi Combined Cycle Power Plant at Bidadi near Bangalore by M/s Karnataka Power Corporation Ltd.	22.5.2006
Year-2007		
Andhra Pradesh		
1.	2100 MW Gas Based CCPP in Nedunoor, Karimnagar, A.P. by M/s APPDCL	7.6.2007
2.	820 MW Gas based CCPP Expansion Stage-II at Devarapalli, District East Godavari, Andhra Pradesh by M/s Konaseema Gas Power Ltd.	27.7.2007
Gujarat		
3.	Gas Based Combined Cycle Power Project Expansion (2x350 MW) at Mora, Hazira, District Surat, Gujarat by M/s Gujarat State Energy Generation Ltd.	12.4.2007
4.	Expansion of 3x350 MW Gas based Combined Cycle Power Plant at Bharuch by M/s Gujarat Paguthan Energy Corporation Pvt. Ltd.	13.6.2007
Haryana		
5.	1065 MW Haryana Aban Power Project Ballabgarh by M/s Haryana Aban Power Co. Ltd.	17.5.2007
Tripura		
6.	1082 MW (3x360.8 MW) Combined Cycle Gas Turbine Thermal Power Project at Palatana village in Udaipur of South Tripura District in the State of Tripura by M/s ONGC Tripura Power Company (P) Limited	7.2.2007
Delhi		
7.	1000 MW Gas based Combined Cycle Power Plant at Bawana by M/s. Pragati Power Corporation Ltd.	2.3.2007
8.	Expansion from 1000 MW to 1600 MW of Pragati-III combined cycle project at Bawana, Delhi by M/s Pragati Power Corporation Ltd. (PPCL)	20.4.2007

*[Translation]***Delay in GQ Project**

*303. SHRIMATI RUPATAI D. PATIL: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been considerable delay in the implementation of the Golden Quadrilateral (GQ) Project and several deficiencies have been brought out in the news-item published in *Dainik Jagran* dated May 25, 2007 under the caption "Sadakon ka kaam pichhadne se hazaron crore pari mein"; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto and the remedial steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) About 96% of Golden Quadrilateral has been completed as on date. The balance work has not been completed because of various reasons such as rescinding and reawarding of the contracts of non-performing contractors, delay in land acquisition, shifting of utilities, environment/forest/Railways clearances etc.

The steps taken by the Government to expedite completion of projects are given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

The following steps have been taken to ensure early completion of the projects:-

(a) The Contracts are regularly monitored at various levels such as by Supervision Consultant, Project Directors, Senior officers of National Highways Authority of India (NHAI). Progress reviews are also held at the level of Chairman, NHAI, Secretary, Department of Road Transport & Highways and Minister, Shipping Road Transport & Highways.

(b) State Governments have appointed Senior officers as nodal officers for resolving problems associated with implementation of the National Highways Development Project (NHDP) such as land acquisition, removal of utilities, forest/pollution/environment clearances etc. These nodal officers hold periodic meetings to review the projects and take action to resolve the problems.

(c) A Committee of Secretaries has been constituted under Cabinet Secretary to address inter-ministerial and Centre-State issues such as land acquisition, utility shifting, environment approvals, clearance of Road Over Bridges (ROBs).

(d) The procedure of issue of Land Acquisition notifications has now been simplified.

(e) To expedite the construction of ROBs an officer of the Railways has been posted to NHAI to coordinate with the Ministry of Railways. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has also been signed with M/s. IRCON for construction of some of the ROBs.

(f) Action has been taken against non-performing contractors and they are not allowed to bid for future projects unless they improve the performance in the existing contracts.

(g) Steps have been taken to improve cash flow problems of contractors by granting interest bearing discretionary advance at the request of contractor, release of retention money against bank guarantee of equal amount, deferment of recovery of advances (on interest basis) and relaxation in minimum Interim Payments Certificate (IPC) amount.

*[English]***Yamuna Action Plan**

*304. SHRI RANEN BARMAN:
SHRI HITEN BARMAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the implementation of the Yamuna Action Plan is far behind its scheduled time of completion;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of the plan and its implementation, Phase-wise;

(d) the original cost of the plan and the cost escalation as a result of delay, Phase-wise;

(e) the details of funds allocated for the plan and utilized therefrom during the last three years, year-wise; and

(f) the time by which the plan is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) The Government of India has undertaken Yamuna Action Plan (YAP) for abatement of pollution of river Yamuna with the assistance from Japan Bank of International Cooperation (JBIC), Government of Japan in a phased manner. YAP Phase-I was launched in 1993 with the completion period upto the year 2000. However, this phase was extended upto 2003 owing to inclusion of additional works on the directions of Hon'ble Supreme Court as well as by the Government of India.

The second phase of YAP was started in December 2004 with the completion period of 5 years. Starting of this phase took some time due to compliance to the administrative and procedural requirements.

(c) and (d) A total of 269 pollution abatement works pertaining to interception and diversion of sewage, installation of Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs), Low Cost Sanitation, Crematoria, River Front Development, Public Participation & Awareness etc. were taken up in YAP, Phase-I at a cost of Rs. 681 crore in 21 towns of the three Stages of U.P., Haryana and Delhi. A total of 38 STPs having a treatment capacity of 753.25 million litres per day (mld) have been created under this phase. The project was completed within the approved cost.

YAP Phase-II was formulated to take up other pollution abatement works of the river Yamuna, as prioritized by the States. This phase includes, (i) installation/rehabilitation of STPs, rehabilitation/replacement of trunk sewers in Delhi, (ii) installation of STPs, laying of sewer lines and rising mains in Agra, Uttar Pradesh and (iii) laying of sewer lines in six towns of Haryana. The estimated cost of this phase is Rs. 624 crores and cost escalation is not envisaged at this stage.

(e) and (f) The allocation for YAP-II and funds utilised during the last three years are as under:

(In crores of Rupees)

Year	Plan Allocation	Funds utilised by the Central Government
2004-05	62.00	7.15
2005-06	50.00	17.97
2006-07	80.00	39.41

The first phase of YAP was completed in 2003. The second phase of the Plan is scheduled to be completed in a period of five years from the date of its commencement.

[Translation]

Accidents in Coal Mines

*305. SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN:

SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cases of accidents in public and private coal mines in the country are on the rise;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) the extent of loss of life and property suffered therein during the last three years and the current year, till date, year-wise; and

(d) the details of the efforts and the action plan being prepared to check the accidents in coal mines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) to (c) The details of fatal accidents in coal mines of both public and private sector in the country as furnished by the Directorate General of Mines Safety (DGMS), Ministry of Labour & Employment during the last three years and the current year are given in the table below:

Year	Fatal accidents	
	No. of accidents	No. of fatalities
2004	87	96
2005	96	117#
2006*	79	138##
2007* (till July '07)	62	64

* figures for 2006 & 2007 are provisional.

includes 14 fatalities in an accident at Central Saunda Colliery of Central Coalfields Ltd. (CCL) on 15/6/2005.

** includes 50 fatalities in an accident at Bhatidih Colliery of Bharat Coking Coal Ltd. (BCCL) on 6/9/2006.

The fatality rate in terms of number of fatalities per million tonnes of production has come down from 6.66 in 1975 to 1.32 in 1985, 0.80 in 1995 and 0.32 in 2006.

The main reasons for the accidents are fall of roof and sides, accidents in rope haulage, fall of persons/objects, inundation, gas explosion etc. in underground mines and human element in operation of dumpers and other machinery in opencast mines. The loss of property in case of accidents in coal mines is insignificant and mostly the equipment are depreciated.

(d) The management of the colliery is responsible for strict compliance of the prescribed safety Standards in mines. While the coal companies take all care in observing safety rules, they have also a stringent safety monitoring mechanism at corporate and local levels. Workmen Inspectors are also deployed in each mine as per the statutory requirement and periodic reviews are held at colliery level, area level and corporate level involving workers representatives and management. Over and above, the Directorate General of Mines Safety, the statutory authority regularly undertakes safety inspection of the mines to enforce compliance of safety rules. At national level the safety aspects of coal mines in the country are reviewed periodically by the Standing Committee on Safety in Coal Mines under the Chairmanship of the Minister of Coal. Government gives highest priority for safety of coal mines and miners.

To improve safety performance, Coal companies are taking the following measures to reduce number of accidents:

- Scientific roof support systems based on rock-mass-rating.
- Increased use of steel supports and roof bolts in place of timber supports.
- Reducing exposure of workers to hazardous conditions by mechanisation of loading operations in underground mines through deployment of side discharge loaders (SDLs) and load haul dumpers (LHDs) etc. and replacing rope haulages with conveyor belts wherever feasible.
- Introduction of continuous miner technology and long wall technology in underground mines wherever feasible.

- Regular monitoring of mine environment for detecting inflammable and noxious gases using modern equipments like digital Multi-Gas Detectors etc.
- Before every monsoon preventive measures against inundation are implemented through:
 - Strengthening pumping arrangements.
 - Emergency plan for keeping vigil on situations.
 - Check co-relation survey to establish the barriers between waterlogged workings wherever danger of inundation exists.
 - Filling up the surface cracks.
- Implementation of Code of Practices for Heavy Earth Moving Machinery operators, maintenance staff & others.
- Thrust on training & retraining of supervisors and workmen including contractors' workers to increase safety awareness.
- Workers participation in safety management.
- Regular safety audit of mines and risk assessment.
- Safety monitoring through multi-disciplinary Internal Safety Organisation (ISO).

[English]

Nutritional Status of the Rural People

*306. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO:
SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has conducted any survey to find out the nutritional status of the people living in the rural areas of the country;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof;

(c) whether the Government has formulated any programme to monitor and improve the nutritional status of the people living in the rural areas of the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the measures taken by the Government to improve the nutritional status of the rural people?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. As per NFHS III in 2005-06, covering 29 States & UTs including rural areas, 46% children under three years age are underweight, 38% are stunted and 19% are wasted. The Chronic Energy Deficiency amongst women is 33% while that of men is 28.1%.

(c) to (e) Yes Sir. Mal-nutrition/under-nutrition is a multi-faceted problem. The important determinants are inadequate food, levels of poverty, female illiteracy, high rate of population growth, repeated pregnancies, environmental, sanitation, hygiene and other such conditions. The nutritional issues are being addressed by several ministries through several programmes that are administered by the Government. Some of the targeted interventions being made in this regard are emphasis on appropriate food for infants and young child feeding, specific programmes for prevention and control of micronutrient deficiencies under National Rural Health Mission, supplementary nutrition through Integrated Child Development Services Scheme (ICDS), National programme of nutritional support to primary education (Mid-day Meal Programme). Government is also addressing the problem of mal-nutrition through the targeted public distribution system (PDS) by making essential food items available at subsidized costs and also through income generating schemes to improve purchasing power.

Norms for Allocation of Funds for National Highways

*307. DR. K.S. MANOJ: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received any request from various State Governments, particularly from Kerala for revision of the existing norms for the sanction of funds for the maintenance of National Highways (NH);

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon;

(c) whether the Union Government proposes to consider the sanction for additional funds for the maintenance of NH, damaged due to heavy rains; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The funds for restoration of damages caused due to heavy rains, floods, etc., are allocated from the total annual Non-Plan allocation for Maintenance & Repair of National Highways (NHs). At present there is no proposal for increasing allocation of funds for repair of damages caused to NHs due to heavy rains, floods, etc.

[Translation]

New Schemes for Promotion of Sports

*308. SHRI ANANT GUDHE:
SHRI SRICHAND KRIPLANI:

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has initiated any new schemes to promote sports;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount of funds allocated under the said schemes, State-wise alongwith the details of arrangements for review of the schemes?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ, MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government has decided to introduce certain new schemes, which are as follows:

(i) Promotion of sports and games in schools, colleges and universities;

(ii) Scheme for carrying out anti-doping activities;

(iii) Promotion of sports among persons with disability.

These schemes are under formulation and will be introduced during the current financial year.

(c) The allocation funds for these schemes for 2007-08 are given below:

(i) Promotion of sports and games in schools, colleges and universities.	Rs. 6.00 crore
(ii) Scheme for carrying out anti-doping activities (National Anti-Doping Agency, National Dope Testing Laboratory; Contribution to World Anti Doping Agency).	Rs. 2.50 crore
(iii) Promotion of sports among persons with disability.	Rs. 5.70 crore

Since these schemes are implemented at the national level, there are no state-wise allocations.

With regard to a review of existing schemes, an independent agency is being appointed to review ongoing schemes in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Planning Commission in this regard.

Attention is also drawn to the draft Comprehensive National Sports Policy, 2007, which may be seen on the Website of the Ministry and which is at present under discussion with stakeholder, including the Parliamentary Forum on Youth.

[English]

Adverse Impact of Over-Extraction of Water

*309. SHRI SUNIL KHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the WWF Report of March 2007, wherein the adverse impact of over-extraction of ground-water has been highlighted;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY):
(a) and (b) The World Wide Fund for Nature, an international Non-Governmental Organization (NGO), in their report titled 'World's Top Ten Rivers At Risk' has listed the river Ganges as one of the world's ten rivers facing risk due to over extraction of water for agriculture. According to the report, over extraction of water for agriculture in the Ganges has caused the reduction in

surface water resources causing increased dependence on ground water. It has led to loss of water-based livelihoods, biodiversity and deficiency in soil organic content. Inadequate recharging of ground water impairs the natural cleansing of Arsenic. The report has suggested to reduce excessive water extraction through efficient irrigation of crops, switching to production of less thirsty crops, use of local knowledge, removing agricultural subsidies, instituting payments for water services, developing a network of partnerships that promote sustainable development and bringing community education and awareness etc.

(c) The steps taken by the Government in this regard are as follows:

(i) To check Over-exploitation of surface and ground water and its recharging:

- (1) A concept report titled 'Master Plan for Artificial Recharge to Ground Water' has been prepared, which has identified a total of 4.5 lakh sq.km. area in the country needing artificial recharge of ground water.
- (2) The Central Ground Water Board (the Board) has circulated Manual/Guide on Artificial Recharge to Ground Water to the States/Union Territories to enable them to formulate area specific artificial recharge schemes to check the declining trend of ground water levels.
- (3) A demonstrative scheme on "Rain Water Harvesting and Artificial Recharge to Ground Water" and 'Study of recharge to ground water' is being implemented by the Board.
- (4) Ministry of Water Resources has proposed the scheme on "Artificial Recharge to Ground Water through Dug Wells" for implementation in over-

exploited/Critical/Semi-Critical areas in 7 States namely Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh to provide sustainability to the dug wells.

- (5) Government has constituted Artificial Recharge of Ground Water Advisory Council under the Union Minister of Water Resources, which has representation from various Ministries concerned with rainwater harvesting like Ministry of Rural Development, Urban Development, Agriculture, Environment & Forests, States/UTs, financial institutions, Industries/Public Undertakings and NGOs.
- (6) Central Ground Water Authority, constituted under Section 3(3) of the Environment (Protection) Act of 1986, has notified 43 over-exploited areas in the country for regulation of ground water development and management and another 65 over-exploited areas for registration of ground water abstraction structures. The Authority also regulates development of ground water by new industries/projects in over-exploited/Critical/Semi-critical areas. It has issued directions to Group Housing Societies, Institutes, Hotels, Industries, Farm Houses, etc. in the notified areas of Delhi, Faridabad, Gurgaon and Ghaziabad and other areas of NCT Delhi where ground water table is below 8 metres from ground surface, to adopt rain water harvesting system.
- (7) The Central Ground Water Authority has directed the Chief Secretaries of the concerned States to take all measures to adopt artificial recharge to ground water/promote rain water harvesting in all the over-exploited areas falling under their jurisdiction and ensure inclusion of roof top rain water harvesting in the building bye-laws.
- (8) States/Union Territories have been requested to enact the necessary legislation regulating and control of Management of Ground-water including rainwater harvesting for ground water recharge.
- (9) A number of water-shed development programmes have been undertaken at national level covering more than 187 lakh ha. of area under the X Five Year Plan.

(ii) Remedial measures for arsenic contamination:

- (1) In order to delineate arsenic free deeper aquifers, the Board carries ground water exploration in arsenic infested areas of West Bengal, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh, wherein exploratory wells tapping arsenic free aquifer zones are constructed and handed over to the State Governments for utilization.
- (2) Besides, the Board also provides technical guidance for identification of source for drinking water in arsenic affected areas.
- (3) Apart from these, Mass Awareness Programme and Water Management Training Programme in different arsenic affected areas are being organized by the Board to make aware the local people and for providing technical guidance.

National Maritime Policy

*310. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state the measures taken to solve the problems of dredging and inadequate draft availability in Indian ports in the absence of a National Maritime Policy?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): Dredging for deepening of port channels and basins is undertaken by the Major Ports from time to time to keep pace with the draft requirements of vessels calling and expected to call at these ports in future. This is a part of the on-going process to improve port infrastructure. Under the National Maritime Development Programme, a total of 25 projects for deepening of channels/berths etc. in the Major Ports have been identified to be taken up for implementation over a period upto 2011-12.

Non-Major Ports are under the overall jurisdiction of the respective State Governments in whom the responsibility for their development vests.

Policy for Allocation of Coal

*311. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria laid down for allocation of coal blocks in the country;

(b) whether the existing process of allocation of coal blocks suffers from many loopholes;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government intends to formulate a new policy or to revise the existing one for the allocation of coal blocks;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the time by which the new/revised policy is likely to be formulated and implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) Coal blocks can be allocated under the following dispensations:

- (i) To Government companies for commercial mining under Government company dispensation;
- (ii) To private companies as well as public sector companies for captive use in specified end uses such as generation of power, production/manufacturing of iron & steel, cement and syn gas through coal gasification and coal liquefaction, under captive dispensation;
- (iii) And to power projects to be developed on the basis of tariff based bidding.

The broad criteria followed in allocation of coal blocks under the aforesaid three dispensations are as followed:

- (i) Government Company Dispensation—Under this arrangement, allocations are determined on the basis of, *inter-alia*, preference to the States which have not been allocated any coal blocks earlier, priority to the host States in order to encourage value addition within the coal bearing State, past performance of applicants in developing coal blocks, proximity of coal blocks to the proposed end use projects, recommendation/support of State Government concerned etc.
- (ii) Captive Dispensation—Allocations are decided taking into account, *inter-alia*, techno-economic viability of end-use project, state of project preparedness, compatibility in terms of quality and quantity of coal in a block with the requirement of end user and track record of applicant company, recommendations of the

State Government and Administrative Ministry concerned etc.

- (iii) For power projects to be selected through tariff based bidding, coal blocks are earmarked on the recommendations of Ministry of Power.

(b) to (d) The present system of allocation of coal blocks for captive use is based on inter-Ministerial and inter-Governmental consultations through a Screening Committee. It has its own merits. However, as the number of coal blocks available for allocation is declining and the demand for the blocks is rising, selection of an applicant has become more difficult, without adopting a more specific objective criterion.

A proposal to introduce competitive bidding system for allocation of coal blocks for captive use, through an amendment in the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957, is under consideration of the Government.

(e) and (f) Since the matter is still under consideration of the Government and would require legislative approval, it is not possible to indicate the details of the proposed formulation and the time frame for its implementation.

[*Transalton*]

AIDS Cases in Hilly States

*312 SHRIMATI KARUNA SHUKLA:
SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of AIDS patients is continuously increasing in the Hilly States of the country including Uttarakhand as reported in "Jansatta" dated May, 25, 2007;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor, State-wise;

(c) the reaction of the Government in this regard;

(d) whether the Government has prepared any special scheme to check the spread of AIDS in such areas of the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) to (e) As per information available at NACO, slight increase in number of reported AIDS cases has been noticed in some of the hilly States namely Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand besides north eastern States of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Mizoram & Manipur. The increase in reporting of AIDS cases may be attributed to initiation of Anti Retroviral Therapy (ART) Programme in the country since 2004. The State-wise details of reported AIDS cases since 1991 are given in the enclosed statement.

The Government of India has launched the National AIDS Control Programme Phase III, with the goal to halt and reverse the epidemic in the country over the next 5 years by integrating programmes for prevention, care, support and treatment through a four-pronged strategy consisting of prevention of new infections among high risk groups and general population, expanding access to treatment, improving programme management and

strengthening Information Management Systems.

In order to make people aware about HIV/AIDS and promote safe behaviours, NACO and State AIDS Control Societies conduct regular IEC campaigns through mass media and inter-personal communication channels. NACO's programmes "Jeewan Hai Anmol" and "Lets Talk AIDS" is aired on 174 AIR stations in 24 languages including the stations in the hilly areas. The special episodes of "Kalyani" health magazine on Doordarshan is telecast focusing on rural, hilly and semi-urban populations. Special awareness programme through Song & Drama Division and Directorate of Field Publicity have been organized in the hilly States where regular mass media presence is low. Besides this, the sensitization of members from Gram Sabhas, Panchayati Raj Institutions, Aanganwadi workers, Self Help Groups and media is also undertaken on a regular basis. In the north eastern States, the faith based organizations have been involved on a large scale to promote awareness and safe behaviour.

Statement

State-wise details of reported AIDS cases since 1991

State	Cumulative figure (1991-2000)	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	Till June 2007	Total
Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	0	13
Assam	99	47	16	50	13	40	107	0	372
Himachal Pradesh	61	6	40	41	75	73	6	0	302
Jammu and Kashmir	2	0	0	0	0	0	34	0	36
Manipur	761	286	632	1187	0	0	80	0	2946
Meghalaya	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8
Mizoram	15	5	14	18	54	0	4	38	148
Nagaland	147	131	87	84	269	18	0	0	736
Sikkim	2	2	2	2	0	3	0	0	11
Tripura	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	5
Uttarakhand	0	0	5	6	19	49	0	0	79
Total	29397	17632	23225	22281	29342	25738	29166	11302	184008

Estimated adults living with HIV/AIDS & adult HIV prevalence at the end of 2006 in hilly states

State	Estimated Number of HIV (15-49 years)	Adult Prevalence (%)
Manipur	22010	1.68
Nagaland	15277	1.27
Arunachal Pradesh	682	0.05
Assam	5119	0.03
Himachal Pradesh	1213	0.03
Jammu and Kashmir	2247	0.04
Meghalaya	859	0.06
Mizoram	4009	0.74
Sikkim	254	0.08
Tripura	2060	0.12
Uttarakhand	3821	0.08
All India (15-49)	2.1 million	0.36(%)
All India Total (all age groups)	2.47 million	

Joint Ventures in Nuclear Energy Sector

*313. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY:
SHRI CHANDRA MANI TRIPATHI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether some foreign companies have offered to set up joint ventures in the country in the Nuclear Energy sector; and

(b) if so, the details of such companies and the action being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) and (b) The Government's Foreign Direct Investment Policy (April 2006) does not permit Foreign Direct Investment in the Atomic Energy Sector.

In the nuclear power generation sector only a Government Company, in which not less than fifty one percent of the paid up share capital is held by the Central Government, can engage in the production of Nuclear Energy.

As far as the supply chain is concerned, for selling equipment and components to the Nuclear Utilities, some foreign companies have initiated dialogues of a purely exploratory nature, with their Indian counterparts. No concrete proposal is, at present, under consideration of Government.

[English]

Treatment for Rabies Patients

*314 SHRI K. C. PALLANI SHAMY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of people in the country die every year because of Rabies;

(b) whether none survived the affliction of Rabies;

(c) if so, the details of loss of lives thereof in the last three years; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to prevent the spread of Rabies and to ensure proper treatment to the patients of Rabies?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) to (d) As Per the data compiled by Central Bureau of Health Intelligence (CBHI), the number of deaths due to rabies in different States of the country is 556 in the year 2004, 302 in 2005 and 361 in 2006. The number of deaths due to rabies in the last three years is given in the enclosed statement.

Rabies if not treated promptly is almost fatal. Deaths due to rabies can be prevented by prompt and appropriate medical assistance in the form of post exposure prophylaxis (PEP). Post-exposure prophylaxis consists of administration of Anti Rabies vaccine.

Health is a State subject. Therefore, it is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments to ensure proper treatment of rabies patients. The Government of India extends technical support and guidelines for the

prevention and management of dog bite cases. The use of Tissue Culture Anti Rabies vaccine by 'intradermal' route has recently been approved so as to economize on the vaccination cost. The anti-rabies vaccines are

procured by the State Governments directly from the manufacturing units. In addition, a pilot project for prevention and control of human rabies has been approved under New Initiatives in XI Five-Year Plan.

Statement

Reported Cases and Deaths Due to Communicable Diseases in India—2004

RABIES/DOG BITES

Sl.No.	State/UT	Male Cases/Deaths	Female Cases/Deaths	Total Cases/Deaths	Reference Period Upto
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	33	16	49	DEC. 2004
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	—	NR
3.	Assam	0	0	0	DEC. 2004
4.	Bihar	—	—	—	NR
5.	Chhattisgarh	—	—	—	NR
6.	Goa	0	0	0	DEC. 2004
7.	Gujarat	0	0	0	DEC. 2004
8.	Haryana	0	0	0	DEC. 2004
9.	Himachal Pradesh	0	0	0	DEC. 2004
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	—	—	1	DEC. 2004
11.	Jharkhand	—	—	—	NR
12.	Karnataka	61	18	79	DEC. 2004
13.	Kerala	17	3	20	DEC. 2004
14.	Madhya Pradesh	0	0	0	DEC. 2004
15.	Maharashtra	61	24	85	DEC. 2004
16.	Manipur	0	0	0	DEC. 2004
17.	Meghalaya	0	0	0	DEC. 2004
18.	Mizoram	0	1	1	DEC. 2004
19.	Nagaland	0	0	0	DEC. 2004
20.	Orissa	1	1	2	DEC. 2004
21.	Punjab	0	1	1	DEC. 2004

1	2	3	4	5	6
22.	Rajasthan	9	10	19	DEC. 2004
23.	Sikkim	1	1	2	DEC. 2004
24.	Tamilnadu	—	—	6	DEC. 2004
25.	Tripura	6	2	8	DEC. 2004
26.	Uttaranchal	0	0	0	DEC. 2004
27.	Uttar Pradesh	0	0	0	JAN. 2004
28.	West Bengal	193	75	268	DEC. 2004
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0	0	DEC. 2004
30.	Chandigarh	0	0	0	MAY 2004
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0	0	DEC. 2004
32.	Daman and Diu	0	0	0	DEC. 2004
33.	Delhi	11	2	13	DEC. 2004
34.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	DEC. 2004
35.	Pondicherry	1	1	2	DEC. 2004
Total		394	155	556	

Data is provisional and not comparable due to ill defined coverage.

—Not Reported

NR—Not Received.

The sum of male and female may not tally with the total figure as some States/UTs have not reported genderwise information separately.

Source: Monthly Health Condition Reports of States/UTs, Directorate of Health Services.

Reported Cases and Deaths Due to Principal Communicable Diseases in India

RABIES-2005

Sl.No.	State/UT	Male Cases/Deaths	Female Cases/Deaths	Total Cases/Deaths	Reference Period Upto
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	17	7	24	DEC. 2005
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	DEC. 2005
3.	Assam	0	0	0	DEC. 2005
4.	Bihar	—	—	—	NR
5.	Chhattisgarh	—	—	—	NR
6.	Goa	0	0	0	APR. 2005

1	2	3	4	5	6
7.	Gujarat	—	—	12	DEC. 2005
8.	Haryana	0	0	0	DEC. 2005
9.	Himachal Pradesh	1	2	3	DEC. 2005
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	0	0	0	DEC. 2005
11.	Jharkhand	0	0	0	DEC, Except JAN. to MAR., 2005
12.	Karnataka	5	1	6	DEC. 2005
13.	Kerala	18	8	26	DEC. 2005
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1	0	1	DEC. 2005
15.	Maharashtra	43	17	60	DEC. 2005
16.	Manipur	0	0	0	DEC. 2005
17.	Meghalaya	0	0	0	DEC. 2005
18.	Mizoram	0	0	0	DEC. 2005
19.	Nagaland	0	0	0	DEC. 2005
20.	Orissa	2	0	2	DEC. 2005
21.	Punjab	0	0	0	DEC. 2005
22.	Rajasthan	12	4	16	DEC. 2005
23.	Sikkim	0	1	1	DEC. 2005
24.	Tamilnadu	—	—	6	DEC. 2005
25.	Tripura	3	3	6	DEC. 2005
26.	Uttaranchal	0	0	0	NOV. 2005
27.	Uttar Pradesh	1	1	2	DEC. 2005
28.	West Bengal	78	44	122	AUG., 2005
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0	0	DEC. 2005
30.	Chandigarh	—	—	—	NR
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0	0	DEC. 2005
32.	Daman and Diu	0	0	0	NOV. 2005
33.	Delhi	11	0	11	DEC. 2005
34.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	DEC. 2005
35.	Pondicherry	0	4	4	DEC. 2005
		192	92	302	

Data is provisional and not comparable due to ill defined coverage.

—Not Reported.

NR—Not Received.

The sum of male and female may not tally with the total figure as some States/UTs have not reported genderwise information separately.

Source: Monthly Health Condition Reports of States/UTs. Directorate of Health Services.

State/UTs wise Cases and Deaths Due to Rabies in India 2006

Sl.No.	State/UT	Male Cases/Deaths	Female Cases/Deaths	Total Cases/Deaths	Reference Period Upto
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	36	9	45	DEC., Except AUG., 2006
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	DEC. 2006
3.	Assam	—	—	—	NR
4.	Bihar	—	—	—	NR
5.	Chhattisgarh	10	4	14	DEC. except JAN. & SEPT. 2006
6.	Goa	0	0	0	DEC. 2006
7.	Gujarat	0	0	0	DEC. 2006
8.	Haryana	0	0	0	DEC. 2006
9.	Himachal Pradesh	1	1	2	DEC. 2006
10.	Jammu Div.	0	0	0	DEC. 2006
	Kashmir Div.	0	0	0	DEC. 2006
11.	Jharkhand	0	0	0	DEC. 2006
12.	Karnataka	6	3	9	DEC. 2006
13.	Kerala	9	8	17	DEC. 2006
14.	Madhya Pradesh	0	0	0	JULY 2006
15.	Maharashtra	35	13	48	DEC. 2006
16.	Manipur	4	1	5	DEC. 2006
17.	Meghalaya	0	1	1	DEC. 2006
18.	Mizoram	0	0	0	DEC. 2006
19.	Nagaland	0	0	0	DEC. 2006
20.	Orissa	0	2	2	DEC. 2006
21.	Punjab	0	0	0	DEC. 2006
22.	Rajasthan	14	4	18	DEC. 2006
23.	Sikkim	0	0	0	DEC. 2006
24.	Tamilnadu	—	—	18	DEC. 2006

1	2	3	4	5	6
25.	Tripura	4	3	7	DEC. 2006
26.	Uttaranchal	0	0	0	DEC. 2006
27.	Uttar Pradesh	0	0	0	DEC. 2006
28.	West Bengal	124	39	163	DEC. 2006
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	3	7	10	DEC. 2006
30.	Chandigarh	—	—	—	NR
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	1	1	DEC. 2006
32.	Daman and Diu	0	0	0	FEB., APR., NOV. & DEC., 2006 Only
33.	Delhi	0	0	0	DEC. 2006
34.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	DEC. 2006
35.	Pondicherry	0	1	1	DEC. 2006
Total		246	97	361	

Data is provisional and not comparable due to ill defined coverage.

—Not Reported.

NR—Not Received.

The sum of male and female may not tally with the total figure as some States/UTs have not reported genderwise information separately.

Source : Monthly Health Condition Reports of States/UTs, Directorate of Health Services.

[*Translation*]

**Role of Local People in Conservation
of Natural Resources**

*315 SHRI RAKESH SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has formulated any policy to decide the role of local people in order to check the exploitation of natural resources in the reserved forest areas; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY):
(a) and (b) No specific policy relating to the role of local

people in checking the exploitation of natural resources in the reserved forests has been formulated. However, in accordance with the provisions of National Forest Policy, 1988, the Government of India had issued guidelines on 1st June, 1990 for involving village communities in the regeneration and protection of degraded forest lands under Joint Forest Management (JFM) strategy. After a review of the JFM programme, Central Government issued guidelines on 21st February 2000 & 24th December 2002 to further strengthen the JFM programme in country. The JFM strategy has been adopted by all the 28 States and 2 Union Territories. As per the information furnished by the State Forest Departments there are more than one lakh village level Joint Forest Management Committees (JFMCs) managing approximately 22 million hectare of forest area. Among their other activities JFMCs also help in checking unsustainable harvest of forest produce from forest areas including reserved forests.

Increase In Cancer Cases

*316. SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE:
SHRI MAHAVIR BHAGORA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of cases of Cancer are likely to be doubled by the year 2030 in the country as per the findings of the International Council for Cancer Research;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of patients who died of Cancer during the last three years, State-wise, and year-wise;

(d) the criteria/norms for allocation of funds released and expenditure incurred therefrom under the National Cancer Control Programme (NCCP) during the last three years, State-wise and year-wise;

(e) the names of the States which have not been allocated funds during the said period alongwith reasons therefor; and

(f) the action plan formulated/proposed to be formulated by the Government to control the disease?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) to (f) According to Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) has stated that the number of diagnosed cancer cases will be more than doubled between 2000-2030 in the world. In 2000, there were 11 million new cases of cancer diagnosed world wide, 7 million deaths from cancer and 25 million people living with cancer. By 2030, the agency expects that 27

million people will be diagnosed with the disease annually and 75 million people will be living with cancer.

However, based on the data from Population Based Cancer Registries (PBCRs) functioning under the National Cancer Registry Programme of ICMR, an estimated 8-9 lakh new cancer cases are detected every year and at any given point of time, there are 2.5 million cancer patients in the country. It is estimated that approximately 4 lakh cancer deaths occur every year. The State-wise details of cancer patients/cancer deaths are not maintained centrally.

The National Cancer Control Programme is being implemented with the objectives of primary prevention through health education, secondary prevention through early detection and diagnosis of cancer and strengthening of cancer treatment facilities.

Under the Programme, support is given to the State Government mainly for development of Regional Cancer Centres (RCCs) and Oncology wing and for implementing District Cancer Control Programme. A one-time grant of upto Rs. 5.00 crore/Rs 3.00 crore is provided for the new RCCs/existing RCCs and upto Rs. 3.00 crore to Government Medical Colleges/Hospitals for development of Oncology Wing. For the District Cancer Control Programme, focused on prevention and early detection, a grant-in-aid of Rs. 90.00 lakh spread over a period of 5 years is provided.

Grants to State Government/Institutions are released on receipt of complete proposals from the State Government. A list showing the funds released to the State/UT during 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 is enclosed as statement. No fund could have been released to 8 States namely Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Chattisgarh, Delhi, Goa, Haryana, Jharkhand and Sikkim during the last 3 years (2004-07) for want of complete proposals from these States.

Statement*State-wise Expenditure Under Revised NCCP*

Sl.No.	Name of State	Name of the Institution	Name of the Scheme	Year	Amount of Grant-in-aid (In Lakh Rs.)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Venkateshwara, Thirupati	Onco.	2006-07	300.00
		GMC, Ananthapura	Onco.	2005-06	200.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
		GGH, Kakinada	Onco.	2005-06	100.00
		IRCS, Nellore	Onco.	2004-05	250.00
2.	Assam	AMC, Dibrugarh	Onco.	2006-07	218.00
		Medical College, Silchar	Onco.	2005-06	200.00
		BBCI, Guwahati	Onco.	2005-06	16.00
		BBCI, Guwahati	RCC	2004-05	284.00
		BBCI, Guwahati	Onco.	2004-05	300.00
3.	Chandigarh	PGIMER, Chandigarh	Onco.	2005-06	264.00
		PGIMER, Chandigarh	RCC	2005-06	500.00
4.	Gujarat	RCC, Ahmedabad	Excellence	2006-07	500.00
		RCC, Ahmedabad	DCCP	2006-07	699
		MGIC, Wardha	Onco.	2006-07	200.00
		RCC, Ahmedabad	DCCP	2005-06	15.00
		RCC, Ahmedabad	RCC	2004-05	300.00
5.	Himachal Pradesh	RCC, Shimla	RCC	2007-08	300.00
6.	Jammu and Kashmir	GMC, Srinagar	Onco.	2006-07	114.00
		GMC, Jammu	Onco.	2005-06	200.00
		SKIMS, Srinagar	RCC	2005-06	499.00
7.	Karnataka	RCC, Bangalore	Excellence	2006-07	500.00
		VIMS, Bellary	Onco.	2005-06	100.00
		RCC, Bangalore	RCC	2004-05	300.00
		RCC, Bangalore	Onco.	2004-05	200.00
8.	Kerala	RCC, Thiru'puram	Excellence	2006-07	100.00
		GMC, Calicut	Onco.	2005-06	150.00
		GH, Emakulam	Onco.	2005-06	27.00
		RCC, Trivandrum	DCCP	2005-06	22.00
		RCC, Trivandrum	RCC	2004-05	300.00
		MCC, Kannur	Onco.	2004-05	150.00
		GMCH, Trivendrum	Onco.	2004-05	300.00
		RCC, Trivendrum	Onco.	2004-05	300.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
9.	Madhya Pradesh	RCC, Gwalior	DCCP	2007-08	44.00
		GRMC, Gwalior	Onco.	2005-06	300.00
		RCC, Gwalior	RCC	2004-05	300.00
10.	Maharashtra	GMCH, Nagpur	Onco.	2004-05	288.00
11.	Manipur	RIMS, Imphal	Onco.	2005-06	300.00
		RIMS, Imphal	RCC	2005-06	500.00
12.	Meghalaya	CH, Shillong	Onco.	2004-05	300.00
13.	Mizoram	Civil Hospital, Aizawl	RCC	2005-06	80.00
		RCC, Mizoram	DCCP	2005-06	22.00
14.	Nagaland	CH, Mokokchung	Onco.	2004-05	221.00
15.	Orissa	RCC, Cuttack	RCC	2006-07	300.00
16.	Pondicherry	RCC, Pondicherry	RCC	2004-05	300.00
17.	Punjab	SGTBH, Amritsar	Onco.	2005-06	200.00
18.	Rajasthan	GMC, Kota	Onco.	2006-07	204.00
		S.P. Medical College, Bikaner	Onco.	2006-07	100.00
		S.P. Medical College Bikaner	DCCP	2006-07	22.00
		SMSMCH, Jaipur	Onco.	2005-06	137.00
		RCC, Bikaner	RCC	2004-05	3.00
19.	Tamilnadu	GAAMCRI & H, Kachipuram	RCC	2005-06	500.00
		RCC, Chennai	RCC	2004-05	300.00
		GAAMCRI & H, Kachipuram	Onco.	2004-05	288.00
		GMCH, Trichur	Onco.	2004-05	120.00
20.	Tripura	Civil Hospital, Agartala	Onco.	2004-05	160.00
21.	Uttarakhand	Doon Hospital, Dehradun	DCCP	2006-07	66.00
		Doon Hospital, Dehradun	Onco.	2005-06	62.00
22.	Uttar Pradesh	KNHM, Allahabad	Excellence	2006-07	500.00
		SGPGIMS, Lucknow	RCC	2005-06	500.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
		JK Cancer Institute, Kanpur	Onco.	2006-07	250.00
		KGMC, Lucknow	Onco.	2006-07	278.00
		SGPGI, Lucknow	Onco.	2005-06	100.00
		GMCH, Allahabad	Onco.	2004-05	300.00
		KNCH, Allahabad	RCC	2004-05	300.00
23.	West Bengal	MCH, Kolkata	Onco.	2006-07	100.00
		GMCH, Medinipur	Onco.	2004-05	300.00

[English]

**Rehabilitation Policy for Villagers Living Inside
National Parks/Sanctuaries**

*317. SHRI VIJAY BAHUGUNA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has formulated any policy to rehabilitate the people living/residing inside the National Parks/Sanctuaries located in different parts of the country, especially in Uttarakhand;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government has received any proposal from State Government of Uttarakhand for removing 41 villages situated inside the Govind Vihar Wildlife Sanctuary in the State;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY):

(a) and (b) The Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 contains provisions for the voluntary relocation of villages located inside the core areas of National Parks and Sanctuaries falling within the Tiger Reserves. The National Wildlife Action Plan (2002-2016) also provides for voluntary relocation and rehabilitation of people living in National Parks and Sanctuaries in the country, which includes the State of Uttarakhand as well.

(c) to (e) The Central Government has not received any proposal from the State Government of Uttarakhand for removing/relocating 41 villages situated inside the Govind Wildlife Sanctuary and National Park in the State. However, the State Government of Uttarakhand had submitted a proposal for rationalization of boundaries of the Govind wildlife sanctuary and National Park, thereby excluding the villages from the boundaries of the Wildlife Sanctuary and National Park. The proposal was considered by the Rationalization Committee constituted by the Ministry of Environment & Forests under the Chairmanship of the Additional Director General of Forests (Wildlife), during its meeting held on 30th June 2006. The Committee had advised the State Government that *prima facie* there was no need to change the boundaries of the Sanctuary and therefore, the State may re-consider their proposal.

Supply of Poor Quality Drugs

*318. SHRIMATI PRIYA DUTT:
SHRI M. APPADURAI:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that poor quality drugs are being supplied to CGHS dispensaries by drugs manufacturers;

(b) if so, whether there is any mechanism to check the quality of drugs supplied to them;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the number of raids conducted in the last two years in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) to (d) Procurement of medicines for CGHS is done centrally through Hospital Services Consultancy Corporation (India) Limited and Medical Stores Organisation for both Generic and proprietary items.

After placement of supply order by the designated agency, the suppliers are given a delivery schedule of 6-8 weeks to supply the drugs. The drugs are subjected to physical inspection, by drawing of sample from each batch and coding by a Joint Inspection Team. The sample of each batch is then sent immediately to two Government approved labs for analytical testing. If the report after analytical testing of each batch is satisfactory, only then the medicines are released to supply to CGHS dispensaries.

No complaint about poor quality of drugs supplied to CGHS by drug manufacturers has come to light recently.

[Translation]

Implementation of Panchayati Raj System

*319. SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA:
DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL:

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government have been asked by the Union Government to send reports regarding the effective implementation of Panchayati Raj System in their respective States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the names of States which have already sent the reports in this regard;

(d) the steps taken/assistance provided by the Union Government for decentralisation of the administrative work; and

(e) the extent of success achieved in this regard as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ, MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. At the Meeting of the Committee of State Secretaries of Panchayati Raj held on 6 August 2007 under the

Chairpersonship of Secretary, Panchayati Raj, Government of India, State Governments were requested to send reports updated to 30 September 2007 regarding the effective implementation of the Panchayati Raj system in their respective States/UTs for incorporation in the independent evaluation being undertaken by the Institute of Rural Management, Anand (IRMA) on the current State of the Panchayats, in continuation of the report on *The State of the Panchayats - A Mid-Term Review and Appraisal* placed on the Table of both Houses on 23 November 2006. IRMA's independent evaluation is expected to be presented to Parliament and the Nation on Panchayati Raj Diwas 24 April 2008.

(d) To reinforce the National Roadmap for Panchayati Raj set out in the Compendium of Conclusions adopted unanimously after the seven Round Table meetings of Panchayati Raj Ministers in 2004, the Union Minister of Panchayati Raj has signed Joint Statements of Conclusions with the Chief Ministers or other authorities concerned of the 22 States and Union Territories where he has thus far undertaken Panchayati Raj tours. Emphasis is being given to the preparation of detailed Activity Maps to clearly spell out the activities related to devolved functions to each of the three tiers of the Panchayati Raj system. The same Activity Map is then expected to serve as the basis for the simultaneous or progressive devolution of finances and functions to each level of activity. Details of assistance provided to States and Union Territories for Capacity Building and Technology Upgradation and Training for Elected Representatives of Panchayati Raj Institutions are given in the enclosed statement-I and II respectively.

(e) The present status of devolution of functions, funds and functionaries to Panchayati Raj Institutions is summarized as enclosed statement-III.

Statement I

A. Release of funds State-wise during the financial year 2004-05

(i) Training and Capacity Building:

S.No.	Name of State	Year (2004-05)
1.	Nagaland	2.96
2.	Uttaranchal	172.73
Total		175.69

Note: No funds were released under Information Technology and Infrastructure Development Components to the State Governments during the financial year 2004-05.

B. Release of funds State-wise during the financial year 2005-06**(i) Training and Capacity Building:**

S.No.	Name of State	Amount (Rs. in Lakh)
1.	Chhattisgarh	147.59
2.	Kerala	44.00
3.	Maharashtra	351.00
4.	Punjab	86.19
5.	Sikkim	200.00
6.	Uttaranchal	167.74
7.	Uttar Pradesh	90.70
8.	West Bengal	221.25
Total		1308.47

(ii) Information Technology:

1.	Orissa	100.00
Total		100.00

Note: No funds were released under Infrastructure Development Component to the State Governments during the financial year 2005-06.

C. Release of Funds State-wise during the financial year 2006-07**(i) Training and Capacity Building:**

1.	Andhra Pradesh	400.00
2.	Assam	94.60
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	47.57
4.	Bihar	439.00
5.	Haryana	189.00
6.	Himachal Pradesh	79.50

1	2	3
7.	Karnataka	181.98
8.	Kerala	44.00
9.	Madhya Pradesh	62.50
10.	Sikkim	41.33
11.	Tripura	83.50
12.	Uttar Pradesh	899.80
13.	West Bengal	100.00
14.	Lakshadweep	12.72
15.	Pondicherry	3.00
Total		2678.00

(ii) Information Technology:

1.	Kerala	252.79
2.	Rajasthan	200.00
3.	West Bengal	260.00
4.	Pondicherry	87.21
5.	Sikkim	304.00
Total		1104.00

(iii) Infrastructure Development:

1.	Bihar	237.50
2.	Gujarat	300.00
3.	Himachal Pradesh	200.00
4.	Rajasthan	300.00
5.	West Bengal	12.50
6.	Tripura	60.00
7.	Sikkim	157.50
Total		1267.50

Statement II*Release of funds under capacity building and untied developmental grants components of BRGF*

Sl.No.	State	Capacity Building Fund		Developmental Grant	
		Amount released in 2006-07 (Rs. in crore)	Amount released in 2007-08 (Rs. in crore)	Amount released in 2006-07 (Rs. in crore)	Amount released in 2007-08 (Rs. in crore)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	13	0	0	0
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.5	0	0	0
3.	Assam	9.122	0	0	35
4.	Bihar	14.45876	0	0	0
5.	Chhattisgarh	9.1	0	0	21
6.	Gujarat	0	0	0	0
7.	Haryana	0	0	0	0
8.	Himachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	0	0	0	0
10.	Jharkhand	0	0	0	0
11.	Karnataka	0	5	0	7.5
12.	Kerala	0	2	0	9.25
13.	Madhya Pradesh	14.9597	0	20.0451	0
14.	Maharashtra	6.19	0	0	0
15.	Manipur	0	0	0	0
16.	Meghalaya	0	0	0	0
17.	Mizoram	0	0	0	0
18.	Nagaland	0	0	0	0
19.	Orissa	0	0	0	37
20.	Punjab	0	0	0	0
21.	Rajasthan	7.78707	0	0	75
22.	Sikkim	0.9492	0	0	0
23.	Tamilnadu	0	0	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6
24.	Tripura	0	0	0	0
25.	Uttar Pradesh	0	25.3	0	0
26.	Uttarakhand	0	0	0	0
27.	West Bengal	10.5	0	0	30
Total		86.56673	32.3	20.0451	214.75

Statement III*Status of Devolution of Funds, Functions and Functionaries to the Panchayati Raj Institutions*

Functional Devolution			Fiscal Devolution	Devolution of functionaries
Transfer of subjects through Legislation	Subjects Covered under Activity Mapping	Comments		
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh				
17	9	Activity Mapping is under finalisation	No Panchayat sector window in the budget. Panchayats get only SFC grants, some revenue assignments, CFC grants and SGRY/NREGA	Only General staff given, departmental staff answer to departments
Assam				
29	29	Activity Mapping issued on 25th June 2007 in which functions, functionaries and finances have been devolved in respect of 17 departments		
Arunachal Pradesh				
	3	Activity Mapping not done	No revenue assignments, Only source of funds are CFC grants, NREGA, SGRY	Only skeleton staff given

1	2	3	4	5
Bihar				
25	25	Committee looking at activity mapping	CFC grants, NREGA, SGRY	Only General staff given, departmental staff answer to departments
Chhattisgarh				
29	27	Activity Mapping under preparation, yet to be notified	Panchayat sector budget window exists. In 2006-07, Rs. 803 crore, pertaining to 12 departments have been allocated to Panchayats	Sahayak Gram Panchayat Adhikari, Gram Panchayat Adhikari, Clerical and Class IV cadres of Education Tribal Health and 7-8 other departments declared as dying cadres and new recruitment to these cadres is undertaken directly by the Panchayats. Chhattisgarh has been particularly successful in recruitment of new Shiksha Karmis at the level of the Janpad Panchayats. More than 30,000 teachers have been so recruited into local level cadres
Goa				
21	18	The Act itself extensively lists out the powers given to the Panchayats. In a sense, this itself constitutes activity mapping, though a separate exercise is also under way	Tax revenues and non-tax revenues from devolved taxation powers	Village Panchayats can appoint employees other than Secretary or Gram Sevak using Panchayat funds. In ZPs, CEO and Adhyaksha of ZP have full control over ZP staff.
Gujarat				
15	14	Activity mapping being worked out, but not completed and notified	About Rs. 3600 crore of development expenditure devolved to panchayats (data for 04-05)	2.2 lakh employees devolved to panchayats, mainly on deputation from State govt. to Panchayat level post, covering 11 departments.

1	2	3	4	5
Haryana				
29	10	In 1995 detailed executive orders were issued for devolution, in respect of 16 departments, but remained largely on paper. In Feb. 2006, Activity mapping was freshly issued for 10 departments	Activity Mapping of Feb. 2006 gives funds for certain departments, such as health, public health, irrigation, agriculture, forest, social justice, women and child devpt and animal husbandry Average Total funds devolved to each GPs (incl. 12th FC) is Rs. 4.38 lakhs.	Activity mapping of Feb. 2006 devolves staff through deemed deputation in respect of 3 departments
Himachal Pradesh				
26	15	General notification on devolution of functions issued for 15 departments in July, 1996. However, only 8 of these have further issued notifications.		Staff is with State govt. Panchayats is appointing authority for 6 types of employees of group C & D category. In addition, Panchayats can report on physical attendance in respect of 12 categories of people.
Jharkhand				
		No elections held to Panchayats		
Karnataka				
29	29	Activity Mapping completed in accordance with the recommendations of the GOI task force, in August 2003.	Devolution of funds revisited and corrected in October, 2004 to match functional devolution. 3561 crore of plan funds (mostly tied to schemes) and about Rs. 4000 crore of non-plan funds devolved to Panchayats per annum and placed in their accounts in treasuries and banks.	Staff of all departments for which functional devolution undertaken, devolved to panchayats on deputation. GPs can appoint Panchayat staff, except Panchayat secretary. All transfers within the district done by committee headed by CEO of ZP

1	2	3	4	5
Kerala				
26	26	Responsibility mapping undertaken is now being revisited, 18 departments are covered	Three categories of funds transferred to Panchayats, namely, (a) untied plan allocation, (b) allocation for different subjects transferred to LSGIs, including plan and non-plan funds tied to specific schemes (c) maintenance grant and general purpose grant. In 2005-06, Rs. 1375 crore was transferred to Panchayats	Staff of 14 departments transferred to Panchayats, with disciplinary control and career review (through CRs) transferred to them.
Madhya Pradesh				
23	23	Fresh activity mapping completed by an NGO is under the consideration of the government	20 departments indicate their funds that are to go to Panchayats. Each GP gets about Rs. 1 lakh as untied fund grant.	All Class III village level functionaries converted into dying cadres and fresh recruitments undertaken by Panchayats. These include Panchayat secretaries, primary school teachers, anganwadi workers etc.
Maharashtra				
18	18	Activities devolved to Panchayats are listed in the acti itself	Separate budget window for transfer of state plan grants to Panchayats.	All Group III and IV Panchayat Panchayat level functionaries to be appointed by Zilla Panchayats. New amendment in 2003 brings all village level officials under the Village Panchayats

1	2	3	4	5
Manipur				
22	22	So far only departments of RD & PR, C & I, Fisheries and Art and culture have issued departmental notifications for devolving funds and functionaries to Panchayats.	In 2005-06, Rs. 2.85 crore for non-plan and Rs. 63.07 lakhs for plan have been devolved to Panchayats.	Staff of the Government are posted to Panchayats and continue under the control and superintendence of the government.
Orissa				
25	9	In October, 2005, orders were issued on activity mapping in 9 departments. It is now reported that 10 individual government departments have issued orders in furtherance of the same.	Panchayats get plan and non-plan funds in respect of a few departments, mainly RD, PR.	Officials of departments are to report to Panchayats in respect of transferred schemes. Panchayats do not make any appointments of their own
Punjab				
7	6	Devolution orders were issued in respect of 6 departments in October, 2003. Now activity mapping has been completed for 29 matters and awaits government approval	Funds are not devolved to Panchayats, except CSS funds in respect of a few scheme, such as SGRY.	Seven departments propose to delegate powers of supervision to Panchayats. In health department, the powers of outsourcing the running of PHCs has been devolved to Panchayats. Recently, In education department, powers of recruitment of teachers has been given to Panchayats
Rajasthan				
29	12	Activity mapping, based on the powers sanctioned to the Panchayats under the law is ready, pending approval of the Government	About Rs. 135 crores given to Panchayats under the Finance Commission grants.	Officials of 8 departments placed with each Panchayat through deputation from government.

1	2	3	4	5
Sikkim				
28	28	Activity mapping completed and notified by the Government in November 2006	Untied block grants of Rs. 10 lakhs given annually to GPs and Rs. 50 lakhs to ZPs. 6 departments give their funds to Panchayats through cheques for schemes.	Staff on deputation from the Government. Panchayat secretary elected by the members. Draft Panchayati Raj service rules prepared by the State and is under examination by line departments.
Tamil Nadu				
29		Activity Mapping to be undertaken. A high level committee under Chairpersonship of the Minister for Rural Development and local administration set up	Only SFC grants given to Panchayats. During 2005-06, about Rs. 195 crore was given to Gram Panchayats.	At GP level, part-time clerks can be appointed by the Panchayat president. ZPs and Block Panchayats have no control over line department staff.
Tripura				
29	21	Government orders devolving functions to Panchayats ready for 12 departments	Funds are given to Panchayats under the gramodaya scheme. According to the recommendations of the SFC, the GPs are to get Rs. 100 per capita, the PSIs Rs. 60 and ZPs, Rs. 40. However, the full amounts are not released and they get only about 25 percent of this allocation.	Staff in respect of 21 departments deputed to Panchayats from the government, with Panchayats exercising powers of payment of salaries, grant of writing of CRs leave, and disciplinary action.

1	2	3	4	5
Uttar Pradesh				
12		Functions relating to 12 departments have been transferred to Panchayats. Activity mapping is still under the consideration of the Government	Funds in respect of certain schemes transferred to Panchayats such as poverty alleviation schemes, midday meals, rural markets SGRY and other CSSs. In addition about Rs. 1174 crores have been given to Panchayats under the SFC recommendations	GPs have power of verification of attendance of all village level workers. Village level functionaries of some departments were transferred to Gram Panchayats in 1999, but they were subsequently withdrawn.
Uttaranchal				
14	9	Activity mapping was issued in September, 2006, but departments have not issued their notifications yet.	Funds pertaining to a few CSSs alone are transferred to Panchayats	In January 2005, executive orders were issued transferring powers of seeking information and supervision over employees of 14 departments to Panchayats.
West Bengal				
29	15	Activity mapping completed in November 2005	Rs. 278 crore of State funds devolved to Panchayats in 2005-06 as budget grants. Reported that total transfer of funds to Panchayats in 2005-06 was Rs. 1066 crore.	EO of the ZP made appointing authority for all posts except group D posts at GP level, for which EO of Panchayat samiti is the appointing authority. This has been done by the WB Panchayat amendment Act 2006. Each GP has 6 sanctioned posts

*[English]***Sports Regulatory Authority**

*320. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:
SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY:

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to set up a Sports Regulatory Authority;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the time by which the Authority is likely to be set up;

(c) whether the Government also proposes to revamp, rejuvenate and reorient the Sports Authority of India, Indian Olympic Association and the National Sports Federations within the Olympic charter;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ, MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The draft Comprehensive National Sports Policy, 2007 prepared by the Ministry emphasizes the need for appropriate constitutional, legal and institutional measures to achieve the twin objectives "SPORTS FOR ALL" and 'EXCELLENCE IN SPORTS'. The proposal to set up an independent Sports Regulatory Authority is designed to resolve sports-related disputes in an open and transparent manner by an independent statutory authority, specifically aimed at distancing Government from being involved with such dispute-resolutions as at present. The draft policy is still in the consultative process.

(c) to (e) The draft policy underlines the need for thorough revamp of the SAI and Nehru Yuvak Kendra Sangathan to enable them to shoulder additional responsibilities under the proposed Policy. It is also proposed to redefine Government's relationship with IOA and NSFs consistent with the provisions of the Olympic Charter. Once the policy gets finalized, detailed action plans will follow.

*[Translation]***Shortage of Battle Ships**

2752. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Navy has shortage of battle ships;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some steps have been taken to meet the shortage of battle ships;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Russia has proposed to give battle ships to Indian Navy;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) whether its strategic aspects have been analysed; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A. K. ANTONY): (a) to (d) Warships are inducted in the Navy as replacement for de-commissioned platforms and for augmenting the strength of the Force. This is a continuous process based on the threat perception and international security environment according to which modernisation plans of the Navy are formulated.

(e) and (f) Indian Navy is in the process of acquiring the aircraft carrier (ex-Admiral Gorshkov) and three stealth frigates from Russia.

(g) and (h) Yes, Sir. A detailed exercise is undertaken to identify appropriate platform.

*[English]***Allotment of Spectrum to CDMA Operators**

2753. DR. RAJESH MISHRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria for allotment of spectrum to CDMA operators;

(b) whether Unified Access Service Licence (UASL) has given permission for maximum spectrum of 5+5 MHz for CDMA and 6.2 + 6.2 MHz for GSM;

(c) if so, whether the WPC came out with a notification for allotment of spectrum beyond contracted amount;

(d) if so, whether the Government has lost over Rs. 1700 crore for not having a policy document in place for auction of 2G spectrum and allotting on adhoc basis as per notification of WPC; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (e) The initial and subsequent additional spectrum is being allotted to the CDMA and GSM operators in accordance with the relevant provisions of their respective Service License Agreements and criteria in this regard, subject to availability of spectrum. Additional spectrum is allotted as per the subscriber based criteria which prescribed "Active Subscribers" and "Peak traffic" averaged over a month in the Visitor Locator Register (VLR) and Network Management System (NMS) respectively, for allotment of additional spectrum to ensure its optimal and efficient use and also, keeping in view the inherent spectrum utilization efficiency of different technologies, which leads to equitable, and not necessarily equal, allotment of spectrum.

The Unified Access Service License (UASL) has a provision for allotment of additional spectrum for GSM as well as CDMA operators subject to optimum usage, justification and availability. Additional percentage of revenue share is levied for such additional spectrum.

Agricultural Performance

2754. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether agriculture performance, especially in crops like pulses, oilseeds, cotton had not been satisfactory during the last three years;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government has examine the causes of such poor performance;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof;

(d) whether the large number of Centrally Sponsored Schemes led to the resources being thinly spread and lacked focus and effectiveness; and

(e) if so, the steps taken by the Union Government to make Centrally Sponsored Schemes more effective to gain the fruitful result?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) Agriculture performance in terms of the production of total foodgrains, pulses, oilseeds and cotton during the last three years can be seen from the table below:

(Million Tonnes)

Crop	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
Total Foodgrains	198.36	208.60	216.13
Pulses	13.13	13.39	14.23
Oilseeds	24.35	27.98	23.88
Cotton#	16.43	18.50	22.70

*4th advance estimates released on 19.07.2007.

In million bales of 170 Kg each.

The production of total foodgrains, pulses and cotton shows an increasing trend. Oilseeds production in 2006-07 declined mainly because of less area coverage under oilseeds as compared to that in 2005-06.

(d) and (e) Periodical reviews of the Centrally Sponsored Schemes are done by the Union Government to maintain their focus, effectiveness and fruitfulness, and to get the optimum use of the resources.

Proposals from Maharashtra

2755. SHRI PRATIK P. PATIL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received a proposal from the Government of Maharashtra for the provision of additional funds for the ongoing Tembhu Project;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) No proposal for financial assistance to Tembhru Project under AIBP is received so far.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Food Insecurity Report

2756. SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Institute for Human Development, New Delhi in collaboration with the United Nations World Food Programme has prepared food insecurity report for various States as reported in the *Hindu*, dated 7th May, 2007;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether any guidelines have been sought from the Government in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Deaths Due to Rain Borne Diseases

2757. SHRI RAGHUVeer SINGH KOSHAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether lakhs of sheeps/goats have died due to water borne diseases every year in rainy season in various States of the country, particularly in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) whether any research work has been initiated by the Indian Veterinary Research Institute in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken to identify and check these fatal diseases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) to (e) Parasitic diseases mainly gastrointestinal parasites are the major water borne diseases in the country. Indian Veterinary Research Institute and other specialized Institutes of ICAR namely Central Institute for Research in Goats, Makhdoom, Central Sheep and Wool Research Institute, Avikanagar are carrying out research in this direction on helmenthic/gastrointestinal parasites through network programmes including one in the State of Rajasthan. A software named FROGIN has been developed from Rajasthan unit for forecasting the intensity of gastrointestinal nematodes.

National Foodgrains Commission

2758. SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE:
SHRIMATI BHAVANA PUNDALIKRAO GAWALI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any proposal to set up a National Foodgrains Commission; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) There is no proposal to set up a National Foodgrains Commission. However, to operationalise the resolution of the National Development Council (NDC) i.e. increasing the production of rice, wheat and pulses by 10, 8 and 2 million tonnes, respectively by the end of

XI Plan, the Government has contemplated a Centrally Sponsored Scheme "National Food Security Mission" (NFSM).

Schemes Under NFDB

2759. SHRI MAHAVIR BHAGORA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the various schemes being run by the National Fishery Development Board (NFDB);

(b) the funds released under these schemes during the last three years, State-wise; and

(c) the criteria laid down for release of the funds under these schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) The major activities to be undertaken by National Fisheries Development Board include:

- Intensive Aquaculture in Ponds and Tanks
- Reservoir Fisheries
- Coastal Aquaculture
- Deep Sea Fishing and Tuna Processing
- Mariculture
- Sea Ranching
- Seaweed Cultivation
- Infrastructure for Post-harvest Processing
- Fish Dressing Centres and Solar Drying of Fish
- Domestic Marketing and other activities.

(b) The Board came into existence only in July, 2006 and fund releases during 2006-07 to the various States is given in the enclosed statement.

(c) Funds are released under various programmes as per the criteria laid down in the EFC Memorandum of National Fisheries Development Board and on the basis of the guidelines for each programme.

Statement

Funds released to various States during 2006-2007 by National Fisheries Development Board

Name of the State	Fund Released (Rupees in Lakhs)
Andhra Pradesh	87.97
Nagaland	18.74
Uttar Pradesh	65.95
Karnataka	252.63
Haryana	33.68
Mizoram	25.19
Manipur	13.57
West Bengal	63.81
Jammu and Kashmir	3.50
Kerala	102.48
Sikkim	7.08
Maharashtra	68.46
Tamil Nadu	4.10
Delhi	68.95
Orissa	1.27
Total	817.38

Substandard Performance

2760. SHRI M. ANJAN KUMAR YADAV:
SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether some officials of M.T.N.L. and B.S.N.L. are acting in connivance with the private companies for providing sub-standard performance in the process attracting customers towards the service of the private companies;

(b) if so, whether the Government has conducted any enquiry in this regard; and

(c) if so, the date on which such enquiry was conducted and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Sir, there is no such case reported in BSNL and MTNL.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

**Small and Medium Irrigation Projects
in Madhya Pradesh**

2761. SHRI KAILASH JOSHI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Madhya Pradesh had sent the proposals of 27 small and medium irrigation projects to get economic assistance from Indo-German Bilateral Development Corporation:

(b) if so, the decision taken by the Government thereon; and

(c) the details of the progress made so far in respect of the said proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) A proposal in respect of 32 minor and 3 medium irrigation projects for funding under Indo-

German Bilateral Cooperation was received from the Government of Madhya Pradesh in the year 2005. After preliminary examination of the proposal, the observations/comments were sent to the Government of Madhya Pradesh. The Government of Madhya Pradesh has not furnished the necessary clarifications.

[English]

Construction of Roads by BRO

2762. SHRI HITEN BARMAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of roads constructed all over India during the last one year by Border Road Organisation (BRO);

(b) the amount sanctioned for each project;

(c) the amount utilized for each project so far;

(d) the present status of each project; and

(e) the time set to complete the pending projects?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A. K. ANTONY): (a) to (e) BRO have taken up construction work on 698 roads during 2006-2007. The project-wise detail of budget sanctioned and utilization for execution of work and other activity during 2006-2007 is as under:

(1) Expenditure on execution of work

(Rs. in Crores)				
Sl. No.	Name of Project	State/Country Covered	Funds Allocated	Funds Utilized
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Himank	Jammu and Kashmir	151.47	146.29
2.	Beacon	Jammu and Kashmir	258.51	248.90
3.	Sampark	Jammu and Kashmir	158.47	157.79
4.	Deepak	Himachal Pradesh & Uttarakhand	179.12	178.52
5.	Chetak	Rajasthan & Punjab	123.39	122.78

1	2	3	4	5
6.	Hirak	Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh & Andaman Nicobar	93.99	86.02
7.	Dantak	Meghalaya & Sikkim, Bhutan	150.26	141.10
8.	Vertak	Arunachal Pradesh & Assam	230.42	224.83
9.	Udayak	Arunachal Pradesh	108.75	104.89
10.	Sewak	Manipur & Nagaland	116.31	114.18
11.	Setuk	Tripura	133.03	128.54
12.	Pushpak	Mizoram	129.45	121.56
13.		Works in Afghanistan & Tajikistan	216.71	182.35
Total			2049.88	1957.75

(III) *Expenditure on procurement of Vehicles, equipment, plants and establishment etc. (common to all projects)*

Funds Allocated	Funds Utilized
Rs. 200.78 crores	Rs. 204.21 crores

Works on the sanctioned road projects are progressed as per priority accorded to it by the Army or sponsoring agencies and availability of funds each year. The above projects are in various stages of construction and are planned for completion between 2007-2020.

[Translation]

Kisan Call Centres

2763. SHRI V.K. THUMMAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Kisan Call Centres functioning in the country at present, State-wise;

(b) whether these call centres are adequate to provide information regarding agriculture to the farmers;

(c) if not, whether the Government propose to set up more such centres in States;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which said centres are likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (e) Kisan Call Centres (KCCs) are currently located in 14 places, as per list given in enclosed statement. The entire country is being covered from these 14 places.

KCCs were established by a private vendor selected by the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation through the prescribed processes. Fresh tender has been invited for the purpose. It indicates that KCC may be located in 27 places, as per the list given in the Statement, covering the entire country.

Final picture in this regard would emerge on completion of the tender process and the feasibility of locating KCCs in 27 places.

Statement*Locations of KCCs*

S.No.	Existing locations	Locations indicated in the tender document
1	2	3
1.	Hyderabad	Hyderabad
2.	Guwahati	Guwahati
3.	Kolkata	Kolkata
4.	Indore	Jabalpur
5.	New Delhi	New Delhi
6.	Ahmedabad	Anand
7.	Chandigarh	Chandigarh
8.	Jammu	Jammu
9.	Bangalore	Bangalore
10.	Kochi	Trichur
11.	Mumbai	Nagpur
12.	Jaipur	Jaipur
13.	Chennai	Combatore
14.	Kanpur	Kanpur
15.	—	Samastipur
16.	—	Imphal
17.	—	Shillong
18.	—	Aizwal
19.	—	Kohima
20.	—	Bhubaneswar
21.	—	Shimla
22.	—	Gangtok

1	2	3
23.	—	Agartala
24.	—	Dehradun
25.	—	Ranchi
26.	—	Raipur
27.	—	Itanagar

Employment in Agriculture

2764. PROF. PREM KUMAR DHUMAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the employment opportunities have reduced in agriculture sector throughout the country, particularly in Himachal Pradesh;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the reaction of the Union Government thereto; and

(c) the funds allocated and expenditure incurred by the Union Government during the said period under the Swarn Jayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana, Jawahar Rozgar Samridhi Yojana and Employment Assurance Scheme in order to increase the employment opportunities in the rural areas of Himachal Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) As per Census of India, the employment opportunities in agriculture in the country as a whole have increased from 2106.76 lakh persons in 1991 to 2340.88 lakh persons in 2001. In Himachal Pradesh, the employment opportunities in agriculture have increased from 16.12 lakh persons in 1991 to 20.49 lakh persons in 2001.

(c) The funds allocated by the Union Government to Himachal Pradesh and expenditure incurred under the given schemes are as under:

Name of Scheme	Allocation during 2005-06	Expenditure/utilization during 2005-06
Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana	Rs. 659.80 Lakh	Rs. 678.32 Lakh
Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY) [Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana and Employment Assurance Scheme were merged with SGRY]	Rs. 3,644.51 Lakh	Rs. 3,587.90 Lakh

Source: Annual Report 2006-07 Ministry of Rural Development.

Jawaharlal Nehru Agricultural University

2765. SHRI RAKESH SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to introduce a new system of education at graduation level in Jawaharlal Nehru Agricultural University, Jabalpur;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any project has been sanctioned for research and development of agriculture;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) Based on the recommendations of the Fourth Deans Committee constituted by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), the revised Course curricula and syllabi including new courses on experiential learning for under graduate education have been approved for implementation by all agricultural universities including the Jawaharlal Nehru Agricultural University.

(c) to (e) Forty-two All India Coordinated Research Projects/Network Research Projects and six adhoc research schemes of the ICAR, are in progress in the University. In addition, the ICAR has sanctioned 39 Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) to the University for assessment, refinement and demonstration of the improved technology. Besides development grant of Rs. 12.23 crores for 2006-07 for education, two projects on (i) Plant tissue culture and (ii) Fruit and Vegetable processing, have been sanctioned to the University for facilitating experiential learning for students.

[English]

Onion Intervention Scheme

2766. SHRIMATI KALPNA RAMESH NARHIRE:
SHRI TUKARAM GANGADHAR GADAKH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the fast perishing nature of onion as a commodity, the Government of Maharashtra has been pressing the Central Government for sharing 50% loss of onion growers under the Onion Intervention Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether other onion growing States have also mooted similar schemes to help the onion growers;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the response of the Union Government in this regard alongwith the details of assistance provided during each of the last three years and thereafter under the scheme and amount of onion procured therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Agriculture is implementing Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) on the request of a State/UT Government for procurement of agricultural and horticultural commodities generally perishable in nature and not covered under Price Support Scheme including onion. The MIS is implemented in order to protect the growers of these commodities from making distress sale in the event of bumper crop when there is glut in the market and the prices tend to fall below economic levels/cost of production. Procurement under MIS is made by NAFED as Central agency and by the State designated agencies. Losses, if any, incurred by the procuring agencies are shared between Central Government and the concerned State Government on 50:50 basis (75:25 in case of North-Eastern States). However, the amount of loss to be shared between Central Government and the concerned State Government is restricted to 25% of the procurement cost. Profit, if any, earned by the procuring agencies is retained by them.

No proposal from the Government of Maharashtra has been received for implementing MIS for onion during last three years and current year.

(c) to (e) On the request of Government of Rajasthan, MIS for onion has been implemented during 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 for procurement of 5000 MT onion in each year at the Market Intervention Price (MIP) of Rs. 2800/- per MT in 2004-05, Rs. 2500/- per MT in

2005-06 and Rs. 2800/-per MT in 2006-07. Due to implementation of MIS, the market prices of onion of Fair Average Quality (FAQ) generally ruled above the MIP. Thus, only 26 MT of FAQ onion was procured during 2004-05 only. The accounts of onion for the year 2004-05 have been settled. Further, no proposal from any State Government for implementing MIS for onion is pending with the Government.

Deduction from Sugarcane Payment

2767. SHRI G. M. SIDDESWARA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether several co-operative sugar mills in the country have been enforcing deductions from payments due to farmers supplying sugarcane, as deposits to be utilized for modernization/expansion of mills and promising refunds thereof with interest at a later date;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the names of such mills, amount collected and conditions stipulated for their return, State-wise;

(c) the details of mills where such funds were utilized for modernisation/expansion of mills during last three years, State-wise;

(d) the mills which have since repaid these deposits with interest to respective sugarcane suppliers and those who defaulted to repay the dues indicating the sums outstanding against each mill; and

(e) the action taken against such defaulters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Modernisation of Special Forces of Army

2768. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the year in which the plan for modernization of the special forces of the Army had been envisaged;

(b) whether the modernisation plan could not be started till date; ,

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken to modernize the special forces?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A. K. ANTONY): (a) to (d) A plan for modernization of Special Forces of the Army was conceived in 2001. The plan has already commenced and necessary steps for the requisite modernization with weapons and equipment are underway.

Wages to Agricultural Labourers

2769. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the wages and other facilities available to the agricultural labourers are much less as compared to their counterparts in organized sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to ensure equitable wages and facilities to the agricultural labourers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) to (c) The average daily earnings of agricultural workers are less than that of workers in organized sector due to various reasons which include:

(i) The wages/earnings of the agricultural labourers are fixed for unskilled workers only under provisions of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, which are usually less than prevailing wage rates of the workers in organized sector.

(ii) The work in the agriculture sector is generally seasonal and the number of working days of the agricultural workers is always less than that of the organized sector workers.

Minimum wages fixed by the appropriate Governments under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 in respect of scheduled employments under their respective jurisdiction are also applicable to those engaged on daily basis. The

Act provides for revision of minimum wages at an interval not exceeding five years. Whenever minimum wages have a Variable Dearness Allowance (VDA) component, the VDA is revised periodically twice a year.

Welfare of Construction Workers

2770. SHRI K.S. RAO: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of male and female workers engaged in Construction Industry, as on date, State-wise;

(b) whether the Standing Committee on Labour has recommended certain measures for welfare of construction workers; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) As per Census 2001, the details of State-wise number of construction workers (male, female) are given in the enclosed statement.

(b) and (c) The Standing Committee of Labour has been making recommendations on various labour laws including speedy implementation of Building & Other Construction Workers (RECS) Act, 1996 and Building & Other Construction Workers Welfare Cess Act, 1996. A Special Group has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Secretary (L&E) to review implementation of the Act by the State Governments. The Group has held regional meetings in various States to impress upon the State Governments for speedy implementation of the Act. The implementation of the Act has picked up owing to the efforts made by the Government.

Statement

Number of workers engaged in construction sector (State-wise) as per 2001 Census

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Total No. of construction workers	Males	Females
1	2	3	4	5
	India*	14,165,044	12,598,999	1,566,045
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1,095,380	911,450	183,930
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	30,078	24,351	5,727
3.	Assam	197,420	190,960	6,460
4.	Bihar	412,270	393,550	18,720
5.	Goa	47,977	41,707	6,270
6.	Gujarat	850,300	738,160	112,140
7.	Haryana	370,000	333,560	36,440
8.	Himachal Pradesh	129,710	121,510	8,200
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	135,220	126,580	8,640
10.	Karnataka	947,000	819,320	127,680
11.	Kerala	1,077,180	934,730	72,450

1	2	3	4	5
12.	Madhya Pradesh	661,200	565,340	95,860
13.	Maharashtra	1,616,490	1,386,910	229,880
14.	Manipur*	14,360	13,220	1,140
15.	Meghalaya	19,510	17,700	1,810
16.	Nagaland	17,201	15,316	1,885
17.	Orissa	595,640	473,340	122,300
18.	Punjab	450,380	429,550	20,830
19.	Rajasthan	1,066,780	931,710	135,070
20.	Sikkim	13,602	11,343	2,259
21.	Tamilnadu	1,134,370	988,010	146,360
22.	Tripura	27,130	25,400	1,730
23.	Uttar Pradesh	1,330,760	1,267,320	63,440
24.	West Bengal	864,180	827,910	36,270
25.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	17,874	16,259	1,615
26.	Chandigarh	32,679	30,840	1,839
27.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	4,919	3,784	1,135
28.	Delhi	352,830	327,840	24,990
29.	Goa	47,977	41,707	6,270
30.	Daman and Diu	4,065	3,227	838
31.	Lakshadweep	1,837	1,780	57
32.	Mizoram	16,579	15,420	1,159
33.	Pondicherry	26,993	24,142	2,851
34.	Uttaranchal	162,860	157,080	5,780
35.	Jharkhand	327,430	284,330	43,100
36.	Chhattisgarh	182,540	145,350	37,190

Note: India and Manipur figures exclude those of the three sub-divisions viz., Mao Maram, Paomata Purul of Senapati district of Manipur as population census 2001 in these three sub-divisions were cancelled due to technical and administrative reasons.

Coconut Insurance Scheme

2771. SHRI CHENGARA SURENDRAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government proposes to introduce insurance scheme for coconut cultivation in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Recently, a proposal for coconut palm and yield insurance scheme which envisages coverage of nut yield and coconut palm and proposed to be implemented on pilot basis in six coastal States, is under examination of the Government.

Military Package to Maldives

2772. SHRI KULDEEP BISHNOI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to provide a military package to Maldives;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the concrete steps taken by the Government to improve security scenario in Indian Ocean Region?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A. K. ANTONY): (a) to (c) India and Maldives enjoy excellent bilateral relations and are cooperating in various areas of mutual interest including defence sector. Requests received from Maldives for defence related cooperation are considered by the Government of India and decisions taken keeping India's interest in view. It will not be in the national interest to disclose further details in the matter keeping the relations with a friendly country in view.

Indian Coast Guard and the Navy carry out regular surveillance in India's territorial waters, Exclusive Economic Zone and other areas of maritime interest. India is also having regular interactions with the Indian Ocean Region littoral states. Patrolling along the International Maritime Boundaries, sharing of information on ship movements & platform signatures with our maritime neighbours and

conduct of joint exercises are some of the measures taken to improve security scenario in Indian Ocean Region.

Pensionary Benefits to Ex-servicemen

2773. SHRI SUBRATA BOSE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any representation from ex-servicemen of less than 14 years of service, demanding pensionary benefits;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI M. M. PALLAM RAJU): (a) Yes. Sir.

(b) Representations are received on the issue from Ex-Servicemen from time to time. Recently Ex-Servicemen Welfare Society, Kannur has also requested for grant of pension to those who had put in less than 14 years of service.

(c) The minimum qualifying service required to earn service pension is 20 years for Commissioned Officers and 15 years for Personnel Below Officer Rank. No change in the existing policy is presently contemplated by the Government.

Water Policy

2774. SHRI M. K. SUBBA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether some State Governments including Assam have submitted their draft Water Policy for sharing of inter-state and International Rivers passing through and passing by the respective States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether approval has been granted to the said proposals by the Union Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the name for the States which have so far failed to submit their proposals in this regard alongwith the reasons for delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) No State Government has submitted the 'draft Water Policy for sharing of inter-state and International Rivers passing through and passing by the respective States'.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

National Innovation Policy

2775. SHRI E. G. SUGAVANAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to launch National Innovation Policy in the country;

(b) if so, the details and salient features thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be launched?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) There is no proposal to launch National Innovation Policy. However, Ministries/ Departments of the Government of India have programmes to support "Research and Innovation". Some of these include:

- (i) Department of Science & Technology (<http://dst.gov.in>)
- (ii) Department of Biotechnology (<http://dbtindia.nic.in>)
- (iii) Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (<http://dsir.nic.in>)
- (iv) Department of Information Technology (<http://www.mit.gov.in>)

The details of the programmes are available at the websites of these Departments.

(c) Does not arise.

Lawyers Under the Ambit of Consumer Protection Act

2776. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the lawyers have been brought within the ambit of the Consumer Protection Act, 1986;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the other professionals included or proposed to be included under the said Act;

(c) the benefits likely to accrue to the consumers as a result thereof;

(d) whether the Government has issued a similar advisory to the State Governments; and

(e) if so, the reaction of the States thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) to (c) As per provisions of the Consumer Protection Act, 1986, all types of services are already covered within the ambit of the Act provided that the service is hired or availed of for a consideration and a consumer can file a complaint in a Consumer Forum against any deficiency in such service hired or availed of for a consideration.

(d) and (e) Do not arise in view of answers to parts (a) to (c) above.

IAF Exercises

2777. SHRI K.C. PALLANI SHAMY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of major IAF exercises held during the last three years, location-wise and the purposes thereof;

(b) whether the Government has taken adequate precautions to ensure that civil air traffic is not disturbed due to the exercise;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether there is also proposal to undertake more such exercises in various parts of the country in near future; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A. K. ANTONY): (a) The Indian Air Force (IAF) has conducted

4 major exercises during the last three years. The exercises were held in the South Western Air Command Area of Operations (AOR), Western Air Command AOR and Eastern Air Command AOR. This however, excludes joint exercises with foreign countries.

The purpose of conducting such exercises is to activate all the available resources under respective Command Headquarters to test their efficacy.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The exercises are organized in consultation with Airports Authority of India/Ministry of Civil Aviation.

(d) and (e) The exercises are planned based on the operational requirement of the IAF.

Utilisation of Spectrum

2778. SHRIMATI MANORAMA MADHAVRAJ: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has proposed to enforce more accountability on the spectrum allotted to Public Sector Units (PSUs) and the Government Departments at low prices/without prices;

(b) if so, whether the TRAI has observed that spectrum allotted to PSUs and other Government Departments are not fully utilised;

(c) if so, whether TRAI has proposed that the spectrum capacity vacated by PSUs and Government Departments can be better utilised for commercial telephony and wireless broadband services; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The TRAI has made certain observations regarding refarming of spectrum from Government and Public Sector Units (PSUs), use of spectrum efficient technologies, an appropriate spectrum charging mechanism, etc. in their Recommendations dated 28 August, 2007, on review of license terms and conditions and capping of number of access providers.

Quality of DMS Milk

2779. SHRIMATI PRIYA DUTT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the quality of milk supplied by Mother Dairy and DMS is not up to the mark;

(b) if so, whether the Government has directed the concerned Department to conduct surprise quality checks; and

(c) if so, the details thereof indicating the number of surprise checks conducted during the last one year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) No, Sir. The milk supplied by Mother Dairy and DMS meets all the prescribed quality norms/standards.

(b) and (c) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

[*Translation*]

SC/ST/OBC Engaged in Cottage and Small Scale Sector

2780. SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons belonging to Other Backward Classes (OBC), Scheduled Castes (SC) and Scheduled Tribes (ST) engaged in Cottage and Small Scale Industries in the country, State-wise and category-wise;

(b) the number of cottage and Small Scale Industries running in the country separately, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government has formulated/proposes to formulate any plan to promote them; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) and (b) The State/Union Territory-wise and category-wise details of village industry units set up by entrepreneurs belonging to Other Backward Classes (OBC), Scheduled Castes (SC) and Scheduled Tribes (ST) as well as total number of such units set up under the Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP) of the Government implemented through Khadi and Village Industries

Commission (KVIC), since the inception from 1st April 1995 to 31st March 2007, are given in the enclosed statement-I. Similarly, the State/Union Territory-wise and category-wise details of micro and small enterprises managed by entrepreneurs belonging to OBC, SC and ST as well as total number of such enterprises, as per Third All India Census 2001-02 and the estimates for the year 2006-07, are given in the enclosed statement-II.

(c) and (d) The development of cottage and small scale industries is primarily the responsibility of the respective State/Union Territory (UT) Governments/Administrations. The Government (in the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises) however, supports and supplements the efforts of the State Governments/UT Administrations through various schemes/programmes relating to credit, infrastructural development, technology upgradation, marketing, entrepreneurial development, etc. The steps taken in this direction include the implementation of the following schemes, in the country:

- (i) Scheme of Product Development, Design Intervention and Packaging (PRODIP) has been launched in order to diversify and develop

products under Khadi & Village Industries and also to improve the packaging of the various KVI products.

- (ii) Scheme of Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries (SFURTI) has been launched in October, 2005 for regeneration of traditional industries in 122 identified /clusters in khadi, village industries and coir sectors.
- (iii) Rural Industries Service Centres Scheme (RISC), through the KVIC, for setting up of common facility centres (CFCs) to provide infrastructural support and services to such industries.
- (iv) REGP is being implemented for establishing village industries projects with margin money assistance from KVIC and loan from public sector scheduled commercial banks.
- (v) Financial assistance for participation in national and international exhibitions.

The details of the new schemes under consideration for promotion of village and small scale industries are given in the enclosed statement-III.

Statement I

State/Union Territory-wise details of village industry units set up by entrepreneurs from OBC, SC, ST and all the units set up under the REGP since inception from 1st April 1995 to 31st March 2007

Sl.No.	State/Union Territory	Number of units set up			
		OBC	SC	ST	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Chandigarh	0	1	0	161
2.	Delhi	35	15	36	256
3.	Haryana	1211	729	399	8176
4.	Himachal Pradesh	438	621	188	3827
5.	Jammu and Kashmir	734	338	232	10674
6.	Punjab	1097	895	324	11929
7.	Rajasthan	4085	2273	875	30907
8.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	275	113	49	1147

1	2	3	4	5	6
9.	Bihar	765	136	59	2641
10.	Jharkhand	571	136	71	1496
11.	Orissa	1234	848	427	5664
12.	West Bengal	2264	2173	943	24175
13.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	2	469	586
14.	Assam	1594	806	595	7693
15.	Manipur	20	10	459	1044
16.	Meghalaya	126	49	1334	3664
17.	Mizoram	0	16	1925	2425
18.	Nagaland	3	1	1018	5413
19.	Tripura	236	116	156	1184
20.	Sikkim	63	15	268	481
21.	Andhra Pradesh	2927	1650	686	19249
22.	Karnataka	2164	1425	731	17096
23.	Kerala	3230	912	390	11470
24.	Lakshadweep	58	20	13	36
25.	Pondicherry	190	84	18	1176
26.	Tamilnadu	1876	805	398	8852
27.	Goa	362	209	43	2679
28.	Gujarat	397	195	88	2402
29.	Maharashtra	4957	2463	1152	27115
30.	Chhattisgarh	1037	193	115	3029
31.	Madhya Pradesh	2208	1274	752	21554
32.	Uttarakhand	401	338	169	3475
33.	Uttar Pradesh	4137	1795	903	20766
Total		38696	20656	15285	262442

Statement II

State/Union Territory-wise details of estimated numbers of micro and small enterprises managed by entrepreneurs from OBC, SC, ST and all such units as per Third All India Census 2001-02 and estimates for the 2006-07

Name of the State/UT	As per Third All India Census 2001-02					Estimates for the year 2006-07				
	ST	SC	OBC	Others	Total	ST	SC	OBC	Others	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Jammu and Kashmir	2576	7455	2990	60105	73126	3161	9147	3669	73749	89726
Himachal Pradesh	3855	20114	9446	42783	76198	4835	25228	11848	53661	95572
Punjab	12137	50515	117751	196423	376826	14230	59225	138053	230290	441797
Chandigarh	23	665	566	20993	22247	28	795	677	25112	26612
Uttarakhand	6350	13803	19924	66406	106483	8207	17839	25750	85823	137618
Haryana	6861	16913	67792	131729	223295	8090	19944	79940	155334	263308
Delhi	1846	5875	14321	155038	177080	2199	6997	17057	184653	210905
Rajasthan	18603	49944	205028	167996	441571	22696	60933	250139	204859	538728
Uttar Pradesh	36810	162688	743600	764878	1707976	45621	201828	921585	947956	2116791
Bihar	10718	34704	343323	130606	519351	12991	42065	416144	158308	629509
Sikkim	16	72	109	170	367	21	93	141	220	474
Arunachal Pradesh	163	242	50	797	1252	205	305	63	1005	1578
Nagaland	12999	729	2	131	13861	17841	1001	3	180	19024
Manipur	32242	1166	949	13641	47998	38404	1389	1130	16248	57171
Mizoram	8262	2765	32	58	11117	10654	3565	41	75	14335
Tripura	2066	3649	8296	10340	24351	2472	4367	9928	12374	29141
Meghalaya	13923	1926	3	6668	22520	17676	2445	4	8466	28591
Assam	9865	12903	30019	141592	194379	11956	15638	36381	171601	235576
West Bengal	11794	106464	50752	602377	771387	14085	127144	60610	719383	921221
Jharkhand	27292	15304	63574	26277	132447	33633	18860	78345	32382	163220
Orissa	97074	45250	131039	114915	388278	117122	54595	158102	138648	468468
Chhattisgarh	43228	31200	130818	58654	263900	51618	37255	156207	70038	315118
Madhya Pradesh	67950	105317	418941	201344	793552	83657	129661	515779	247885	976981
Gujarat	55747	67123	115431	292012	530313	67948	81814	140695	355923	646379

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Daman and Diu	13	6	33	1321	1373	28	13	71	2831	2942
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	139	12	46	1440	1637	139	12	46	1440	1637
Maharashtra	29065	69191	233729	479682	803567	25810	85180	287739	590526	989254
Andhra Pradesh	17017	41857	449725	366831	875430	20284	49894	536072	437262	1043512
Karnataka	32438	50664	349994	225726	658822	39626	61891	427550	275745	804811
Goa	19	4	333	6741	7097	23	5	406	8220	8654
Lakshadweep	459	67	0	6	532	582	85	0	8	675
Kerala	11354	16351	247683	177436	452824	13605	19593	296794	212618	542610
Tamilnadu	15585	57460	577909	137010	787964	19911	73410	738323	175041	1006684
Pondicherry	75	22	6551	2213	8861	94	28	8221	2777	11120
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1742	108	19	1335	3204	2192	136	24	1680	4032
Total	582206	992528	4340778	4605674	10521186	711644	1212178	5317535	5602418	12843774

Statement III

1. Restructuring of Rural Employment Generation Programme: This scheme is going to be a comprehensive proposal which seeks to merge the two major employment generation schemes viz. Pradhan Mantri Rozgar Yojana and Rural Employment Generation Programme.

2. Scheme for setting up District Skill Development Centres (DSDC) in rural/backward areas in XI Plan: This scheme aims to set up 600 DSDCs in rural/backward areas of the country during XI Plan mainly to conduct short duration courses not exceeding six months and to train nearly 2000 trainees per annum per centre.

3. Scheme for setting up/opening of new Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development Institutes (MSME-DIs) and Branch MSME-DIs: This scheme envisages opening of 62 new MSME-DIs/Branch MSME-DIs with the objective to give sustained support to MSME in order to generate employment and disperse industrial growth, facilitate technology upgradation, competitiveness and efficiency in MSMEs, encourage capital and technology flows in small & micro industries.

4. Setting up of 7 new Tool & Training Centres: With a view to foster the growth of the MSME sector in the country, in addition to the 10 state-of-the-art Tool & Training Centres which are equipped with precision machine tools and allied equipments to design and manufacture moulds, dies, jigs & fixtures etc. used to produce high precision parts and components of a product or the product itself, setting up of 7 new Tool and Training Centres is proposed during XI Plan.

5. Propagation of MSME through Television: It is proposed to hire 30 minutes time slots everyday on National Channel of Doordarshan for one year and to get half an hour programmes produced by professional agencies to be aired on National Channel of Doordarshan during prime/mid prime time with a view *inter alia* to disseminate information about plans, programmes and policies of the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises and to generate awareness among millions of potential entrepreneurs.

[English]

Anomalies in Recruitment

2781. SHRI GIRIDHARI YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) proposes to recruit Sports Management Officer to control/promote All India BSNL sports activities effectively;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which such an officer is likely to be recruited;

(c) whether attention of the BSNL authorities has been drawn to the disproportionate recruitments made by Telecom Circles in certain sports disciplines during the last three years;

(d) if so, the details and the reasons therefor;

(e) the steps taken/being taken by the BSNL to remove the anomalies in recruitment of sports persons in various sports disciplines; and

(f) the incentives being provided to the outstanding sports persons of BSNL for their excellent performance in All India Tournaments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

(e) There is no anomaly in the recruitment of sportspersons.

(f) Players who secure positions continuously for two years in All India BSNL tournaments are granted cash awards as follows:

1st Position	Rs. 3000
2nd Position	Rs. 2000
3rd Position	Rs. 1000

Artificial Recharge to Ground Water

2782. DR. K. S. MANOJ: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per the survey conducted by Central Ground Water Board (CGWB), Gabion Structure is found

feasible for construction at Barsati Nala flowing through Khasra No. 1102 at Village Hinsla in Alwar District of Rajasthan under fresh water-2003 scheme;

(b) if so, the action taken by the agencies concerned at Central/State level during the past one year to construct said structure and the funds provided to the implementing agency;

(c) the directions issued by the Government to the Government of Rajasthan for providing proper facilities for the construction of said structures in view of acute scarcity of water in the region;

(d) whether any survey has been conducted to find out locations for artificial recharge to ground water/ exploratory wells in Rajasthan particularly in Alwar District; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir,

(b) and (c) There is no approved scheme of the Ministry of Water Resources under which funds could be provided for such projects. No directions have also been issued to State Government of Rajasthan in respect of the project.

(d) and (e) In order to decipher the potentiality of the aquifers, the CGWB carried out ground water exploration programme in Alwar District.

Overhauling of Bofors Guns

2783. SHRI RAGHURAJ SINGH SHAKYA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to refer to reply the Unstarred Question No. 658 dated July 28, 2005 and state:

(a) whether the Complete Overhaul of Bofors Gun, which was intended to be completed within 10 years, has been initiated;

(b) if so, the date of commencement of Overhauling and the number of Guns overhauled so far, with yearly break-up; and

(c) if not, the reasons for delay in the overhaul of these guns and the future programme for completion of the Overhauling of these Guns?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A. K. ANTONY): (a) to (c) The overhaul of the Bofors guns was initiated in 2000-2001. The overhaul of the guns is being carried out as per the scheduled targets. Till date 75 guns have been overhauled.

Basmati Rice

2784. SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposed to expand the definition of basmati to include more varieties of aromatic long-grained rice in an effort to facilitate the development of new varieties of the cereal that has a huge export market; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the purpose behind this move?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In the proposed definition of the evolved basmati, the bar of having one of the two parents from among the traditional basmati varieties has been removed. Instead, it expands the definition by including in the family history (genealogy), a Basmati variety (Traditional or evolved) notified under Seed Act 1966, to pass the "basmati quality genes" into the new evolved varieties.

Thus, it seeks to declare that all varieties of Basmati Rice notified as Basmati Rice under the Seeds Act, 1966 (54 of 1966) and *any future variety notified as Basmati under the same Act* are construed as Basmati Rice.

The proposed revised definition will facilitate the development of new Basmati varieties and will promote the trade. This proposal has been sent to the Ministry of Commerce for consideration.

[Translation]

Passing of Secret Information

2785. SHRI GANESH SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Cyber Crime Branch of Mumbai Police has arrested an employee of Tata Group of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) under I.T. Act while he was passing important secret information to Reliance Communication on the line of film Corporate;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken/being taken by the Government against the guilty persons in this regard; and

(d) the names of the shareholders in BSNL alongwith the percentage of their holdings in BSNL?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited is 100% Government Company however as far as VSNL (Videsh Sanchar Nigam Limited) is concerned the response to the question above is as follows:

On 7th February, 2007 VSNL filed a Police Complaint with Dadar Police Station at Mumbai under section 66 of the Information Technology Act, 2000 against one of its employee Mr. Prashant Indulkar suspecting that certain confidential information residing in VSNL Computer Resource might have been given by him to outsiders. Mr. Prashant Indulkar was working as personal assistant to the then Executive Director of the Company.

It is submitted that in the Police Complaint as above, VSNL has not suspected about information being passed by Mr. Indulkar to any particular person or company. It is also submitted that, the police is investigating the matter.

(b) It is not possible to give details of all the confidential information which might have been passed by Mr. Prashant Indulkar. In the Police Complaint, however, VSNL has stated that, Mr. Indulkar might have passed information relating to highly confidential document which could have been the basis of the news report in *Economic Times* dated 12th January, 2007 viz "Orascom, VSNL to tie up for cable biz" as also the news report in *Economic Times* dated 15th January, 2007 viz "Tata call on Lanka's Suntel", etc.

(c) VSNL is a disinvested Company (run by TATA management) and Government is having only 26.12% stakes in VSNL at present, therefore action against Mr. Indulkar is being taken by TATA's only.

(d) The details of shareholding in VSNL as on 31st July, 2007 is as follows:

Share Holder	Percentage Holding (%)
Government of India	: 26.12
Company of Tata Group	50.11
Financial Institutions & Mutual Funds	1.44
Insurance Companies	11.42
Foreign Institutional Investors	2.02
Individuals and Companies	2.73
American Depository Receipts	: 6.16
Total	: 100.00

[English]

Religious Headcount In Armed Forces

2786. SHRI PRABODH PANDA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has permitted religious headcount in the Armed Forces;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A. K. ANTONY): (a) to (c) Armed Forces have a secular and a political character. Recruitment to the Forces is based on merit and is open to every citizen of the country without any discrimination on the basis of their caste, creed, religion or region. All the personnel from all communities and regions work together without any distinction on the basis of caste, creed or religion. Therefore, it was not considered desirable to permit headcount based on religion as it would have affected the ethos and cohesiveness of the forces.

Construction of Scorpene Submarine

2787. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:
SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE:
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the construction of highly advanced Scorpene submarine has started;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which the construction work is likely to be completed;

(d) whether Mazgaon Dock Limited (MDL) is the only shipyard to undertake construction of submarines in the country;

(e) if so, whether the capacity of this shipyard has been fully utilized for the last two decades; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A. K. ANTONY): (a) to (c) The construction of the Scorpene class submarine has started since December 2006. The first submarine is scheduled to be delivered in December 2012 and thereafter one each every year till December 2017.

(d) to (f) M/s Mazgaon Dock Ltd. (MDL) is at present the only defence Public Sector Undertaking (PSU) in the country undertaking construction of submarines. The submarine production line at MDL remained under-utilized for some time till commencement of construction of the Scorpene submarines.

[Translation]

Opposition to entry of New Mobile Companies

2788. SHRI BHUVANESHWAR PRASAD MEHTA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the mobile phone companies operating at present are opposing the entry of new companies in the name of spectrum which is resulting in loss to the consumers due to lack of competition;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether 400 million mobile phone consumers are using 60 MHz spectrum in China while 150 million consumers in our country are not satisfied with the 55 MHz spectrum;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the policy framed by the Government to check misuse of spectrum;

(f) whether any company has been found guilty in this regard; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The TRAI has considered the related issues and gave its Recommendations dated 28th August, 2007 on review of license terms and conditions and capping of number of access providers. These are to be examined by the Government taking into account relevant aspects.

(e) to (g) The initial and subsequent additional spectrum is allotted to mobile phone companies in accordance with the relevant provisions of their respective Service License Agreements and criteria in this regard, subject to availability of spectrum. Any unauthorized usage/misuse of spectrum is a violation under the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885 and action could be initiated against such user as per the relevant provisions of Indian Telegraph Act, 1885.

[English]

Acquisition of Helicopters for Army

2789. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the United States (US) has questioned about the disqualification of an American firm in a proposed deal to acquire 197 helicopters for the Indian Army;

(b) if so, the details of issues raised by the US about the bona-fides of firm; and

(c) the decision taken and settlement, if any, reached with the firm for procurement of the helicopters?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A. K. ANTONY): (a) The US Government conveyed their concern over the disqualification of M/s Bell Helicopter Company in the case of procurement of a replacement helicopter for the Cheetah/Chetak helicopters of the Indian Army.

(b) No issues have been raised about the bona-fides of the firm by the US Government.

(c) The helicopter offered by Bell Helicopter Company was not found technically qualified as per General Staff evaluation made by the Army based on field trials. No settlement has either been reached or proposed with the firm.

Recruitment of Foreign Nationals in Defence Forces

2790. SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some foreign nationals have been recruited in the defence forces in the recent past;

(b) if so, the facts and details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to re-check the antecedents of new recruits in defence forces; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A. K. ANTONY): (a) and (b) The recruitment to the Defence Forces is open to eligible Indian nationals and subjects of certain countries like Nepal and Bhutan. Recruitment to Defence Forces has been done according to extant recruitment policy.

(c) and (d) Stringent verification measures are in force to scrutinize the domicile/nationality, age and educational qualification etc. of all candidates appearing for recruitment in Defence Forces. Due care is being exercised by Recruitment Officers/Centres to follow these measures. Further, character and antecedents of the recruits are verified through the respective police/Intelligence authorities.

Misappropriation of P. F., Gratuity and Pension Fund By Jute Mills/Factories

2791. SHRI AMITAVA NANDY: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assessment has been made by the Government regarding misappropriation of P. F., Gratuity and Pension Funds of the workers by the Management of various jute mills/factories;

(b) if so, the details and outcome thereof;

(c) the steps taken by the Government for protection of the interest of such workers;

(d) whether the victims had been provided any compensation; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) to (e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of House.

Illegal Transport of Timber

2792. SHRI MANI CHARENAMEI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Territorial Army (TA) has been utilized to help the State Forest Department to help in checking illegal transport of timber;

(b) if so, the States where Territorial Army has been utilized alongwith number of personnel engaged for the purpose;

(c) whether timber mafias are operating in North East India; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to check the uncontrolled felling of timber and transportation particularly from the North-Eastern States?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A. K. ANTONY): (a) to (d) Ecological Task Forces have been setup under Territorial Army with the specific task of afforestation, sand dunes stabilization, watershed management, regeneration and restoration of mining areas. The task forces funded either by Central Government or State Governments are located in Delhi, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Rajasthan, Jammu & Kashmir and Assam. The Territorial Army has not been utilized to assist State Forest Departments in checking illegal transport of timber.

[Translation]

Poor Condition of Telephone Connections

2793. SHRI MITRASEN YADAV:
SHRI SUBHASH SURESHCHANDRA
DESHMUKH:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the telephone connections in the country especially in the rural areas in eastern Uttar Pradesh by the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd. (BSNL) are not working satisfactorily; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and location-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Sir, the telephone connections provided by BSNL in the country including rural areas of eastern Uttar Pradesh are generally working satisfactorily. However sometimes, services to some of the telephones are affected because of theft of cables and damage to cables etc. but these are restored promptly.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

American Defence Proposal for India

2794. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the United States has proposed the concept of "Hajjari Nav Sena" to India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the advantages targeted to be achieved from this proposal; and

(d) the extent to which the above project has been implemented?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A. K. ANTONY): (a) to (d) The 'Hajjari Nav Sena' is a concept propounded by the Chief of Naval Operations of USA during a symposium held in September, 2005 in USA. The concept is about sharing of maritime domain

awareness information among various maritime agencies world wide to make the seas safe for the use of all nations. Since it was a concept, the question of taking any action on this does not arise.

Decline in Number of Cows

2795. SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian breeds of cow are on the verge of extinction as reported in *Jansatta* dated July 15, 2007; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) and (b) As per the 17th Livestock Census, indigenous cattle population in the country has declined by 10.2 per cent during the inter-censal period from 1997 to 2003. In order to know the actual status of different indigenous breeds of cattle in the country, the Government has decided to conduct 18th Livestock Census breedwise. The details of various schemes run by the Government for development and conservation of indigenous breeds of cattle are given in the enclosed statement-I and II.

Statement I

Details of the schemes being implemented by the Government for development and conservation of cattle

Sl.No.	Name of the scheme	Objective of the scheme
1	2	3
A. Centrally sponsored schemes		
1.	National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding	The project envisages genetic up-gradation of bovine population on priority basis and also has focus on development and conservation of indigenous breeds.
2.	Assistance to States for Fodder Development	Scheme provides Central assistance to the States to supplement their efforts in feed and fodder development sector.
3.	Assistance to States for Control of Animal Diseases	Assistance is provided for control of economically important diseases by way of immunization, strengthening of veterinary biological production units and disease diagnostic laboratories, in-service training of veterinarians and para-veterinarians.
4.	National Project on Rinderpest Eradication	The physical surveillance through village, stock route and institutional searches to detect any hidden cases of Rinderpest.
5.	Livestock Insurance	Protect the farmers against the losses of genetically improved/high yielding animals.
B. Central Sector Schemes		
1.	Central Cattle Breeding Farms	Production of high pedigree bull calves of indigenous cattle breed viz. Tharparkar and Red Sindhi for distribution to States to use in the cattle development programmes.

1	2	3
2.	Central Herd Registration Scheme	Identification of superior germplasm of indigenous cattle breeds, propagation of superior genetic stock, regulating sale and purchase, facilitating formation of breeders' associations and meeting the requirement of indigenous bulls in the States.
3.	Regional Station for Forage production and Demonstration	Production, demonstration and propagation of certified seeds of high yielding varieties of fodder crops and pasture grasses/legumes.

Statement II*Funds released under Centrally Sponsored Schemes during the last three years*

(Rs. in Lakh)

Sl.No.	Name of the scheme	Year			Total
		2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	
1.	National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding	67.95	90.93	119.34	278.22
2.	Assistance to States for Fodder Development	11.90	11.62	33.09	56.61
3.	Assistance to States for Control of Animal Diseases	54.50	71.66	72.46	198.62
4.	National Project on Rinderpest Eradication	6.95	6.85	6.98	20.78
5.	Livestock Insurance	0.00	24.21	50.60	74.81
Total		141.3	205.27	282.47	629.04

Seeds Identified by ICAR

2796. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH "LALAN":

SHRI SURAJ SINGH:

SHRI SUNIL KHAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware due to rains and floods in eastern Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Assam sowing of Kharif crop has been delayed;

(b) if so, whether the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has identified certain seeds which can be sown at a later time;

(c) if so, the names of such seeds and the availability of these seeds in the country;

(d) whether the Government has made any arrangements for making these seeds available; and

(e) if so, the quantum of seeds allocated to each State so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (e) The Government is supporting "Establishment and Maintenance of Seed Bank" a component of the Central Sector Scheme "Development and Strengthening of Infrastructural Facilities for Production and Distribution of Quality Seeds" to ensure the availability of seeds to meet natural calamities and unforeseen conditions like flood.

All the State Seeds Corporations including National Seeds Corporation and State Farms Corporation of India have been allotted targets to maintain certified seed of identified suitable short duration crops/varieties for the year 2007-08. The details of different crop certified seed maintained in the Seed Bank are given in the enclosed statement-I and II. In addition to the above, details of Seed Minikits of Pulses, Oilseeds and Maize allocated to Uttar Pradesh and Bihar during Kharif 2007 and Rabi 2007-08 are given in the statement-III.

Statement I

Details of Physical Target/Maintenance of certified seeds in Seed Bank during 2007-08

(Qty. in qtls)

Sl. No.	Crop	APSS DC	BRBN	GSSC	HSDC	KSSC	MSSC	MPS	FDC	NSC	SFCI	OSSC	RSSC	Tamil-nadu	UPSDC	UAS & TDC	WBS SC	PSSC	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
1.	Wheat	—	1000	—	1000	500	2000	1000	8000	6000	—	2000	—	5000	3000	300	2000	31800	
2.	Paddy	3200	1000	—	700	3500	—	500	7000	5000	3500	200	2000	2000	1010	3200	500	33310	
3.	Sorghum	—	—	—	—	1000	300	200	700	300	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2500	
4.	Bajra	—	—	300	300	200	300	—	150	—	—	2000	—	100	—	—	—	3350	
5.	Maize	—	500	—	—	—	—	100	400	300	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1300	
6.	Gram	150	200	300	500	1000	800	350	1500	1000	—	500	—	100	—	—	—	6400	
7.	Peas	—	—	—	—	—	—	100	1000	500	—	—	—	100	—	—	—	1700	
8.	Urad	100	200	—	200	—	150	100	2000	500	—	—	100	200	600	100	—	4250	
9.	Moong	350	250	400	250	200	150	150	1600	500	—	3000	100	—	—	50	200	7500	
10.	Lentil	50	250	—	200	—	—	200	1000	500	200	—	—	100	—	250	—	2750	
11.	Arhar	—	—	150	150	300	100	100	1000	500	300	—	—	—	—	—	—	2300	
12.	Groundnut	2200	—	1700	—	—	200	—	2200	3800	—	200	200	100	—	1100	—	12700	
13.	Soyabean	—	—	—	—	—	1200	2200	2200	—	—	—	—	500	800	—	—	6900	
14.	Sunflower	—	—	—	—	200	50	—	500	—	1000	—	—	—	—	—	50	800	
15.	Toria/Mustard	—	500	—	800	—	—	150	4000	2000	—	1500	—	300	800	500	20	11070	
16.	Rajmash	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	50	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	50	
17.	Sesamum	50	—	100	50	—	50	50	—	—	500	—	200	—	40	250	—	790	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
18.	Cotton	—	—	75	500	100	—	100	—	100	—	—	—	—	—	—	100	975
19.	Castor	100	—	300	—	—	—	—	2650	—	—	100	—	—	—	—	—	3150
20.	Safflower	—	—	—	—	—	100	50	—	100	—	—	100	—	—	—	—	350
21.	Compea	—	—	—	—	100	—	—	—	—	—	—	100	—	—	—	—	200
22.	Taramira	—	200	—	—	—	—	—	—	100	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	300
23.	Barley	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	250	—	1000	—	—	—	—	—	1250
24.	Ragi	—	—	—	—	200	—	—	200	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	400
25.	Guar	—	—	—	500	—	—	—	—	500	—	200	—	—	—	—	—	1200
26.	Linseed	—	—	—	—	—	—	50	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	50
Total		6200	4100	3325	5150	7300	5400	5400	36100	22000	5500	10700	2800	8500	6250	5750	2870	137345

Statement II

Details of physical targets/maintenance of certified seeds for Seed Bank in North Eastern States (NES) during 2007-08.

(Qty. in Qtls.)

S.No.	Crop	NSC	SFCI	ASC	UAS & DC	Total
1.	Wheat	1500	2000	—	2500	6000
2.	Paddy	2900	1500	5000	8500	17900
3.	Maize	100	—	—	—	100
4.	Urad	250	—	1000	1500	2750
5.	Moong	500	—	500	—	1000
6.	Lentil	50	100	—	—	150
7.	Soyabean	125	—	—	—	125
8.	Mustard	225	100	1000	1000	2325
9.	Gram	—	1000	—	—	1000
10.	Peas	—	200	—	—	200
Grand Total		5650	4900	7500	13500	31550

Statement III

Details of Seed Minikits of Pulses, Oilseeds and Maize Allocated to Bihar and Uttar Pradesh During Kharif 2007 and Rabi 2007-08

(Quality in Qtls.)

Crop/Variety	Bihar		Uttar Pradesh	
	No. of Kits	Quantity in Qtls.	No. of Kits	Quantity in Qtls.
1	2	3	4	5
Kharif 2007				
Arhar-Malviya Chamatkar	2750	110	5500	220
Arhar-Narendra Arhar-I	—	—	2500	100
Urad-Uttara	7500	300	16000	640
Urad-Azad Urad-2	—	—	4300	172
Moong-PM-4	4200	168	7500	300
Moong-PDM-139	12500	500	40000	1600
Rabi 2007-08				
Toria-JMT-689	36500	730	5650	113
Mustard-Agrmai	45000	900	5000	100
Mustard-Aravalli	10000	200	6400	128
Mustard-Jagannath	50000	1000	1000	20
Mustard-Vasundhara	5000	100	16000	320
Mustard-Swam Jyothi	10000	200	10000	200
Mustard-JD-6	22500	450	5750	115
Mustard-Jumka	589	11.72	—	—
Mustard-DMH-1	2700	27	2000	20
Mustard-Laxmi	—	—	50000	1000
Mustard-Narendra Agati Rai-4	—	—	10600	212
Mustard-RGN-13	—	—	5000	100
Mustard-Kranti	—	—	78	1.56
Mustard-R.K. 9501 (Urvashi)	—	—	35000	700
Total	145789	2888.78	146828	2916.56

1	2	3	4	5
Linseed-Shekhar	—	—	500	15
Gram-GG-4	6875	550	—	—
Gram-Vishal	—	—	19375	1550
Gram-DCP92-3	—	—	22000	1760
Gram-Sadbhawna	—	—	100	8
Gram-PG-186	—	—	1065	85.20
Gram-BG-1053	—	—	585	46.8
Gram-Samrat	—	—	35000	2800
Gram-BGD-72	—	—	5000	400
Gram-Alok	—	—	940	75.2
Total	6875	550	84065	6725.50
Lentil-HUL-57	1700	68	—	—
Lentil-PL-5	1450	58	4000	160
Lentil-NDL-1	—	—	325	13
Lentil-DPL-62	—	—	17375	695
Total	3150	126	21700	868
Peas-DBR-23	267	21.36	—	—
Peas-HUDP-15	3500	280	6250	500
Peas-IFP99-25	—	—	1976	158.08
Peas-Uttara	—	—	4250	340
Peas-Sapna	—	—	1000	80
Peas-KPMR-522	—	—	4000	320
Total	3767	301.36	17479	1398.08
Rajmash-IIIPR 96-4	500	15	1400	42
Rajmash-IIIPR 98-5	—	—	966	28.98
Total	500	15	2366	70.98
Maize-Bio-9637	10000	200	10000	200

*[English]***Representations on Autonomy of TRAI**

2797. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received representations on the autonomy and independence of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI);

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard;

(c) whether the TRAI being self-governing body is giving representations to high level officials and Ministers;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the subjects on which such representations have been given during the last one year; and

(f) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to ensure transparency by ensuring that action of regulatory authorities are not emanated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, the issues relating to recruitment/selection in Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) vis-a-vis its neutrality and fairness were raised in one representation. They were examined in detail and it was found that the prescribed procedure for appointment/selection of official in TRAI as given in the TRAI (Officers and Staff Appointment) Regulation, 2001 is being followed by them.

(c) and (d) To discharge its functions, TRAI has to frame various Regulations and make recommendations based on a clearly defined consultation process involving various stakeholders. TRAI also issues orders and directions in discharging of its functions as a regulator of the Telecom Sector.

During consultation process, presentations are required to be made to high-level officials of Government and Ministers, as Government is one of the stakeholders.

(e) During the last one-year, presentations were given on various issues like Licensing, sharing of spectrum and Unsolicited Commercial Calls, etc.

(f) Does not arise in view of (c) to (e) above.

Hike in Prices of Fruits and Vegetables

2798. SHRI HARIBHAU RATHOD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to devastated flood in various States the crops, fruit and vegetables have been damaged;

(b) if so, whether the price of vegetables and fruits have touched the sky;

(c) if so, whether there is a chance of shortage of foodgrains and price rise; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken to maintain supply of adequate foodgrains and check their price rise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (d) Besides affecting the standing crops, fruits and vegetables in the field, flood disrupts transportation of fruits and vegetables, thereby their market arrival. The Wholesale Price Index of vegetables has increased marginally to 267.1 as on 11.8.2007 from 261.9 a month ago on 14.7.2007. Wholesale Price Index of fruits has also increased marginally from 216.2 to 218.3 during the same period. As per the Fourth advance estimates, all India production of foodgrains for the year 2006-07 (July-June) is 216.13 million tonnes compared to 208.60 million tonnes during 2005-06. Supply, stock, market arrivals and prices of foodgrains are regularly monitored by the Government.

*[Translation]***Recognition to Industrial Training Institutes**

2799. SHRI CHANDRABHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) being run in States are recognised by the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) if not, whether any decision has been taken by the Union Government to give recognition to the ITIs not yet recognised by the Union Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) to (d) Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) are set up under the financial and administrative control of respective State Government. Central Government is responsible for framing overall policies, norms, affiliation of Institutes, trade testing & Certification. Affiliation/recognition is granted to those trades/Units of a desirous

institute conforming to the prescribed norms fixed by National Council for Vocational Training (NCVT) which is an advisory body to Government of India. Trade/Units in ITIs not affiliated by NCVT are recognised by State Council for Vocational Training (SCVT). State wise details of Industrial Training Institutes/Industrial Training Centres are given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of States/UTs	Number of Govt. ITIs	Number of Pvt. ITCs	Total ITIs/ITCs
1	2	3	4	5
Northern Region				
1.	Haryana	81	25	106
2.	Himachal Pradesh	55	8	63
3.	Jammu and Kashmir	38	0	38
4.	Punjab	110	71	181
5.	Rajasthan	91	45	136
6.	Uttar Pradesh	185	128	313
7.	Chandigarh	2	0	2
8.	Delhi	14	48	62
9.	Uttaranchal	57	16	73
	Sub-Total	633	341	974
Southern Region				
1.	Andhra Pradesh	92	476	568
2.	Karnataka	131	610	741
3.	Kerala	82	467	549
4.	Tamilnadu	71	605	676
5.	Lakshadweep	1	0	1
6.	Pondicherry	7	8	15
	Sub-Total	384	2166	2550

1	2	3	4	5
Eastern Region				
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	2	0	2
2.	Assam	24	3	27
3.	Bihar	29	29	58
4.	Jharkhand	14	22	36
5.	Manipur	7	0	7
6.	Meghalaya	5	2	7
7.	Mizoram	1	0	1
8.	Nagaland	3	0	3
9.	Orissa	27	147	174
10.	Sikkim	1	0	1
11.	Tripura	4	0	4
12.	West Bengal	49	18	67
13.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1	0	1
Sub-Total		167	221	388
Western Region				
1.	Goa	11	4	15
2.	Gujarat	135	129	264
3.	Madhya Pradesh	136	33	169
4.	Chhattisgarh	80	57	137
5.	Maharashtra	347	267	614
6.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1	0	1
7.	Daman and Diu	2	0	2
Sub-Total		712	490	1202
Grand Total		1896	3218	5114

*[English]***Coconut Prices**

2800. SHRI P.C. GADDIGOUDAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the price of coconut has come down drastically in Karnataka recently;

(b) if so, the details and reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to help the coconut growers in the coconut-growing States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA):

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The price data given below show a fluctuating decline in month-end wholesale prices of coconut in important markets in Karnataka:

Rs per unit

Variety of coconut	Market in Karnataka	Unit	Dates					
			Jan/ 2006	April/ 2006	August/ 2006	Dec/ 2006	April/ 2007	August/ 2007
Rashi	Ariskere	1000 nuts	4000	4000	4500	4000	4000	4000
Sort-I	Mangalore	1000 nuts	7500	7250	7150	7650	7100	6600
Sort-II	Mangalore	1000 nuts	5500	5250	5150	5650	5100	4600

Relative shortage in supply due to damage to coconut crops in 2004 and 2005 seasons on account of diseases has been followed by a good harvest in 2006 season. The resultant surge in market arrivals of coconut during the peak period (i.e. June-September 2007) in the current marketing season in Karnataka which has been reflected in fall in prices.

(c) The Government of India fixes Minimum Support Prices (MSP) for important crops including coconut/copra on the basis of recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) and procures the crops through designated Government agencies. The MSP fixed for Milling and Ball copra for the year 2007-08 are Rs. 3620.00 per quintal and Rs. 3870.00 per quintal respectively.

Karnataka produces mainly Ball copra. In view of the depressing price behaviour in the market, National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation Ltd. (NAFED) has intervened in the markets and procured 19 thousand MTs of Ball copra up to April, 2007.

Employment in Organised Sector

2801. SHRI K. SUBBARAYAN : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of jobs provided in the organised sector particularly in the manufacturing and service sectors during each of the last three years, State-wise and Sector-wise;

(b) the increase/decrease in employment generation in the manufacturing and service sectors during the said period, State-wise and Sector-wise; and

(c) the schemes being implemented for employment generation in the organised sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) and (b) State-wise information regarding number of employees in manufacturing and service-sectors is given in the enclosed statement.

(c) Government is attempting to generate employment through normal growth process and through special schemes/programmes during the Plan periods. The Approach Paper to Eleventh Five Year Plan envisages creation of 70 million job opportunities during the 11th Plan for the economy as a whole.

Statement
Number of Employees—Sector-wise

(in thousand)

Sl. No.	State/Union Territory	Manufacturing Sector			Variation over previous year		Service Sector		Variation over previous year		
		2003	2004	2005	2004	2005	2003	2004	2005	2004	2005
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1.	Haryana	213.05	212.30	212.23	-0.75	-0.07	354.06	353.05	351.69	-1.01	-1.36
2.	Punjab	208.50	210.42	211.21	1.92	0.79	489.73	499.97	457.88	10.24	-42.09
3.	Himachal Pradesh	@	@	43.91	—	—	@	@	179.87	—	—
4.	Chandigarh	11.88	11.82	10.98	-0.06	-0.84	67.17	67.61	67.44	0.44	-0.17
5.	Delhi	118.79	117.75	114.92	-1.04	-2.83	660.99	659.11	653.79	-1.88	-5.32
6.	Rajasthan	167.65	165.07	164.63	-2.58	-0.44	861.28	860.79	867.44	-0.49	6.65
7.	Jammu and Kashmir	@	@	@	—	—	@	@	@	—	—
8.	Madhya Pradesh	153.20	149.09	145.61	-4.11	-3.48	749.94	729.83	714.16	-20.11	-15.67
9.	Chhattisgarh	@	58.64	58.71	—	0.07	@	193.45	193.37	—	-0.08
10.	Uttar Pradesh	347.68	336.42	324.43	-11.26	-11.99	1537.61	1531.54	1513.78	-6.07	-17.76
11.	Uttaranchal	34.14	32.98	33.75	-1.16	0.77	174.13	171.56	172.34	-2.57	0.78
12.	Assam	32.55	32.56	32.90	0.01	0.34	415.29	413.11	411.06	-2.18	-2.05
13.	Meghalaya	@	@	@	—	—	@	@	@	—	—
14.	Manipur	@	1.19	1.19	—	0.00	@	64.76	64.76	—	0.00
15.	Mizoram	@	@	@	—	—	@	@	@	—	—
16.	Nagaland	0.48	0.46	0.73	-0.02	0.27	54.61	56.35	56.81	1.74	0.46
17.	Tripura	@	@	@	—	—	@	@	@	—	—
18.	Bihar	@	33.05	33.05	—	0.00	@	448.91	448.91	—	0.00
19.	Jharkhand	@	225.12	224.31	—	-0.81	@	224.79	231.25	—	6.46
20.	Orissa	100.66	91.21	92.78	-9.45	1.57	509.01	512.52	515.13	3.51	2.61
21.	West Bengal	@	512.38	492.99	—	-19.39	@	1013.76	1005.70	—	-8.06
22.	Gujarat	613.92	613.69	636.30	-0.23	22.61	874.54	860.95	907.16	-13.59	46.21
23.	Maharashtra	937.81	910.35	877.46	-27.46	-32.89	2325.23	2328.74	2343.98	3.51	15.24
24.	Goa	@	16.66	25.86	—	9.20	@	25.30	54.72	—	29.42
25.	Daman and Diu	@	@	@	—	—	@	@	@	—	—
26.	Andhra Pradesh	494.42	475.54	483.28	-18.88	7.74	1400.67	1382.30	1356.48	-18.37	-25.82

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
27.	Karnataka	587.11	549.69	561.69	-37.42	12.00	1112.18	1124.47	1160.00	12.29	35.53
28.	Kerala	298.70	310.72	254.50	12.02	-56.22	750.46	744.12	740.23	-6.34	-3.89
29.	Pondicherry	17.07	18.56	19.10	1.49	0.54	33.17	36.09	37.05	2.92	0.96
30.	Tamilnadu	625.43	521.28	531.25	-104.15	9.97	1522.84	1516.13	1518.05	-6.71	1.92
31.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	4.01	1.82	1.82	-2.19	0.00	24.68	24.90	24.99	0.22	0.09
Total		4967.05	5712.77	5589.58	745.72	-123.19	13917.59	15844.11	16048.04	1926.52	203.93

@Not available.

Employment to Rural Labourers and Youths

2802. SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY:

SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of unemployed labourers/youths in the rural areas in the country as on date, State-wise;

(b) the number of skilled, unskilled, educated and uneducated unemployed labourers/youths amongst them, State-wise;

(c) the number of skilled, unskilled, educated and uneducated labourers/youths provided employment by the Government in rural areas during each of the last three years and thereafter, State-wise;

(d) whether the Government has chalked out any special programmes/plans to provide employment to all unemployed labourers/youths in the rural areas; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) State-wise number of job seekers including youth, all of whom may not necessarily be unemployed, registered with employment exchanges in rural areas in the country as on 31-12-2006 is given in enclosed Statement-I.

(b) State-wise number of educated and uneducated job seekers including youth registered with employment exchanges combined together for both rural and urban

areas in the country as on 31-12-2005 is given in the enclosed statement-II.

(c) State-wise number of placements effected through employment exchanges in both public and private sector in rural and urban areas combined together during the last three years is given in enclosed statement-III.

(d) and (e) Government has been implementing special employment generation schemes such as Swarnjayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana, Sampooma Grameen Rozgar Yojana, Rural Employment Guarantee Programme, National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005, etc. to provide employment to both educated and uneducated unemployed persons in rural areas. Approach Paper to Eleventh Five Year Plan envisages creation of 70 million jobs during the 11th Plan. Details of Employment Generation Schemes for rural areas are given in enclosed statement-IV.

Statement I

State-wise number of rural job seekers registered with employment exchanges as on 31st December, 2006

(In thousand)

State/UT	2006
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	1516.7
Arunachal Pradesh	2.4
Assam	1183.6
Bihar	1116.1
Chhattisgarh	651.7
Delhi	112.1

1	2
Goa	71.5
Gujarat	485.3
Haryana	701.2
Himachal Pradesh	674.2
Jammu and Kashmir	44.1
Jharkhand	771.9
Karnataka	544.2
Kerala	3034.1
Madhya Pradesh	1058.4
Maharashtra	2025.1
Manipur	354.4
Meghalaya	13.7
Mizoram	7.0
Nagaland	16.2
Orissa	628.3
Punjab	241.9
Rajasthan	420.5
Sikkim*	
Tamilnadu	2129.2
Tripura	222.0
Uttarakhand	312.6
Uttar Pradesh	1667.7
West Bengal	4352.6
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	—
Chandigarh	@
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	6.5
Daman and Diu	3.1
Lakshadweep	11.2
Pondicherry	24.7
Total	24384.3

Note:

*No exchange is working in the State.

Total may not tally due to rounding off.

—Nil.

—@ Less than fifty.

Statement II

State-wise number of educated and uneducated job seekers registered with employment exchanges as on 31st December 2005

(In thousand)

State/UT	Educated (10th Standard and above)	Uneducated (Below 10th Standard)
1	2	3
Andhra Pradesh	1698.7	728.9
Arunachal Pradesh	15.4	9.7
Assam	1224.0	536.8
Bihar	1107.8	354.0
Chhattisgarh	864.1	124.4
Delhi	501.3	170.1
Goa	86.2	14.6
Gujarat	742.3	112.3
Haryana	883.1	181.6
Himachal Pradesh	689.5	221.8
Jammu and Kashmir	75.0	41.0
Jharkhand	682.8	526.1
Karnataka	1026.6	291.7
Kerala	3040.9	587.7
Madhya Pradesh	1695.0	465.9
Maharashtra	2931.3	1060.5
Manipur	342.8	189.6
Meghalaya	24.3	13.7
Mizoram	20.4	14.0
Nagaland	25.8	18.5
Orissa	717.5	115.7
Punjab	358.4	104.7
Rajasthan	615.1	178.5
Sikkim*		

1	2	3
Tamilnadu	2485.4	1195.8
Tripura	162.2	237.5
Uttarakhand	319.4	59.5
Uttar Pradesh	1463.9	407.4
West Bengal	3911.0	3380.9
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	18.2	20.8
Chandigarh	31.2	24.8

1	2	3
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	3.3	3.2
Daman and Diu	4.5	6.1
Lakshadweep	6.3	4.9
Pondicherry	161.4	10.0
Total	27935.1	11412.7

Note: *No exchange is working in the State.
Total may not tally due to rounding off.

Statement III

State-wise placement effected through employment exchanges

State/UT	Placement effected through employment exchanges during the year (In thousand)			Placement effected in respect of educated through employment exchanges during the year (In actual No.)		
	2003	2004	2005	2003	2004	2005
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Andhra Pradesh	3.7	2.4	1.7	1796	1381	943
Arunachal Pradesh	@	@	@	53	2	5
Assam	0.6	0.2	0.4	103	103	84
Bihar	0.6	0.1	@	542	9	37
Chhattisgarh	1.6	0.9	2.2	397	90	139
Delhi	0.4	0.3	0.1	372	126	70
Goa	0.3	0.2	0.3	237	189	252
Gujarat	64.9	64.9	92.9	20505	18364	40258
Haryana	4.3	3.4	3.5	3108	2293	2005
Himachal Pradesh	1.3	1.0	1.7	1128	862	2628
Jammu and Kashmir	@	—	@	0	0	0
Jharkhand	8.6	0.7	2.7	134	99	76
Karnataka	2.9	1.6	1.7	1755	961	909
Kerala	7.3	7.5	9.7	7200	7252	8617
Madhya Pradesh	1.9	1.6	1.7	642	397	510
Maharashtra	14.0	12.8	15.0	12167	10312	9226
Manipur	@	—	0.3	0	0	286

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Meghalaya	@	@	@	8	23	11
Mizoram	0.3	@	—	0	0	0
Nagaland	0.2	@	@	50	15	3
Orissa	1.8	1.3	2.0	1214	1528	1463
Punjab	3.2	2.7	2.1	1088	1359	1080
Rajasthan	2.3	3.4	7.7	1202	2738	2738
Sikkim*						
Tamilnadu	18.9	13.2	15.3	18803	11938	12696
Tripura	0.7	0.3	0.2	379	237	237
Uttarakhand	1.8	1.5	2.1	1660	2230	1984
Uttar Pradesh	2.6	1.7	1.6	1053	1190	959
West Bengal	9.3	10.1	7.3	6948	6957	4906
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.4	0.1	0.1	315	159	159
Chandigarh	0.5	0.3	0.2	446	288	126
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	@	@	—	11	268	43
Daman and Diu	@	@	@	9	9	9
Lakshadweep	0.1	@	—	96	110	110
Pondicherry	0.4	0.3	0.7	265	239	468
Total	154.9	132.6	173.2	83686	71728	89934

Note: *No exchange is working in the State.

Total may not tally due to rounding off.

—Nil.

—@Less than fifty.

Statement IV

Swarnjayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana (SGSY)

SGSY, a holistic self-employment generation programme, was launched from April, 1999 by restructuring the earlier Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) and allied programmes. The emphasis of SGSY is on a focused approach to poverty alleviation, capitalizing advantages of group lending and overcoming the problems associated with a multiplicity of programmes. SGSY is funded on the cost-sharing basis between the centre and the States in the ratio of 75:25. Families Below

the Poverty Line (BPL) in rural areas constitute the target group of SGSY. Within the target group, special safeguards have been provided to vulnerable sections by way of reserving 50% benefits to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes, 40% for women and 3% for disabled persons.

Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY)

SGRY, launched on September 25, 2001 to provide additional wage employment in the rural areas, has a cash and food grains component. The cash-component of SGRY is funded on the cost-sharing basis between

the centre and the States in the ratio 75:25. While food grains are provided free of cost to the States and UTs, special safeguards for weaker sections and women of the community have been provided by way of earmarking 22.5% of annual allocation to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes families living below the poverty line. Efforts are also made to provide 30% of employment opportunities for women.

National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS)

The NREGS was implemented from February 2, 2006 in 200 (and now in 330) identified districts of the country with the objective of providing 100 days of guaranteed unskilled wage employment to each rural household opting for it. The ongoing programmes of SGRY and National Food for Work Programme (NFFWP) have been subsumed under NREGS in these districts. NREGS will cover all districts of the country within five years. The NREGS, a demand-driven scheme has its focus on works relating to water conservation, drought proofing (including afforestation/tree plantation), land development, flood-control/protection (including drainage in waterlogged areas) and rural connectivity in terms of all-weather roads.

Medical Pensioners

2803. SHRI M. P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the benefit to Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) Pensioners in regard to medical facilities under Central Government Health Scheme (CGHS) are restricted to Delhi only;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government proposes to provide medical facilities to all the pensioners of ICAR: and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) Central Government Health Scheme (CGHS) caters to the Central Government employees/pensioners. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is an autonomous body registered under the Societies

Registration Act, 1860. Therefore, ICAR employees/pensioners are not Central Government employees/pensioners. However, as a special dispensation, the Government of India has extended the CGHS facilities to the employees of ICAR Headquarters and Institutes like IARI etc. located in Delhi. These employees continue to receive CGHS facility after superannuation, if they settle in Delhi. However, the CGHS facility has not been extended to the employees/pensioners of ICAR at other CGHS areas due to limited infrastructure facilities and resource constraints.

(c) and (d) Central Government pensioners at non-CGHS areas are entitled to a fixed medical allowance of Rs. 100/- per month to meet the day to day medical expenses on treatment. ICAR pensioners outside Delhi are also entitled to the fixed medical allowance at the same rate. Some institutes of the ICAR have dispensaries attached with them and these dispensaries cater medical facilities, to the extent available, to the pensioners who have registered with those dispensaries. Medical reimbursement to the pensioners for in patient treatment in Government/approved hospital is made as per the Civil Service (Medical Attendance) Rules.

Crashes of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles

2804. SHRI RANEN BARMAN:
SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of unmanned aerial vehicles/pilotless aircraft during each of the last three years, till date;

(b) the number of persons killed/injured, if any, and the quantum of financial loss suffered as a result thereof;

(c) whether inquiries have been conducted into each crash;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to check recurrence of such accidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A. K. ANTONY): (a) A total of 7 Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) crashed during the last three financial years and the current year (till 29.8.2007). The year-wise details are as under:

Year	Number of crashes
2004-2005	2
2005-2006	4
2006-2007	1
2007-2008	Nil
(till 29.8.2007)	

(b) No person has been killed/injured in these accidents. Apart from the loss of UAVs, there were no other financial losses as a result of these crashes.

(c) to (e) Each crash is investigated through a Court of Inquiry and remedial measures are undertaken accordingly to check their recurrence in future.

[Translation]

BSNL Land in Rajasthan

2805. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) owns land at Village Gura Bishnoiyan in Jodhpur district of Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the area of the land alongwith the time by which the work is likely to commence there;

(c) whether the work in progress on the BSNL land has been held-up;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the time by which the work is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. The Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) owns a piece of land measuring 2500 Square Meters at Village Gura Bishnoiyan in Jodhpur district. The work on this land commenced on 26.06.2007 but is held-up due to objection raised by villagers. The work can be re-started after settlement of the dispute.

[English]

Irregularities in ESI Hospitals

2806. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether regular inspections are made by the Nodal Officers/Medical Referees of Employees State Insurance (ESI) hospitals in the country for the review of the functioning of ESI schemes;

(b) if so, the details of irregularities found and the action taken/proposed to be taken to stop such irregularities;

(c) the number of visits made by General Purpose Medical Care Sub Committee during the last three years alongwith the details of their recommendations; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government on their recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) The ESI Corporation has appointed Senior State Medical Commissioner (SSMC)/State Medical Commissioner (SMC) in the States for periodical visits to ESI Hospitals/Dispensaries and to have liaison with State Government for ensuring proper functioning of ESI Scheme in the State.

(b) The main problems observed during the visit to the hospitals by the SSMC/SMC are poor utilization of hospital facilities, shortage of staff and non-availability/non-functioning of the equipments. In January 2007, the State Governments have been advised to take measures for upgrading of medical facilities to improve delivery of medical care services under the ESI Scheme. For expediting the sanction of equipments powers have been delegated to the SSMCs/SMCs for sanctioning equipments up to Rs. 15 lakhs per unit. Besides this, an additional incentive of Rs. 50 per Insured Person per family unit per annum will be given to the State Government on fulfilling stipulated terms and conditions for improvement of medical scheme.

(c) and (d) During the last three years (2004-05, 2005-06 & 2006-07), the General Purposes Medical Care Sub-Committee (GPMCSC) of ESI Corporation visited ESI Hospitals Bibvewadi & Chinchwad (Pune) on 01.02.2006 and ESI Hospitals Vashi, Thane, Andheri (Mumbai) on 02.02.2006 for selection of site for super speciality hospital for Western Zone. The Committee recommended handing over of ESI Hospital Chinchwad and ESI Hospital Bibvewadi to the State Government and taking over of ESI Hospital Andheri by ESIC to be run as Model Hospital-cum-super speciality hospital. In addition, the

GPMCSC visited Jharkhand region from 05.10.2006 to 07.10.2006 and the observations made by the Sub-Committee were discussed with the concerned Secretary of the State Governments on 07.10.2006 and the report of the Sub-Committee was forwarded to the all concerned for taking appropriate action.

[Translation]

Closure of Micro, Small and Medium Industrial Units

2807. SHRI TEK LAL MAHTO:
SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN:

Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of micro, small and medium industrial units of public and private sectors closed down during each of the last three years, State-wise and Sector-wise;

(b) whether any study/survey has been conducted by the Government to find out the reasons for closure of such industrial units;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof:

(d) whether the Government has taken any concrete steps for revival of these units;

(e) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(f) the details of grant/financial assistance provided by the Union Government to various States for the purpose, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) to (c) The information on year-wise/sector-wise closure of micro and small enterprises (MSEs) is not maintained centrally. According to results of the Third All India Census of MSEs with reference year 2001-02, out of 22,62,401 MSEs registered upto 31.03.2001, 39 per cent (numbering 8,87,427) enterprises were found closed. The State/UT-wise distribution of these closed enterprises is given in the enclosed statement. The main reasons of sickness/closure listed during the census included shortage of working capital, fall in demand of specific products, change in technology, shortage of raw material, marketing problems and increase in competition.

(d) to (f) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has issued detailed guidelines to the banks in January, 2002 on detection of sickness in MSEs at an early stage and taking remedial measures and for rehabilitation of sick MSEs identified as potentially viable. These guidelines include, *inter alia*, a change in the definition of sick MSEs, norms for deciding on the viability of sick enterprises and concessional finance. Subsequently, RBI has issued fresh guidelines on 8th September 2005 on debt restructuring mechanism for small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and includes viability criteria, prudential norms for restructured accounts, provision of additional finance and time frame for working out the restructuring package and its implementation. Further, Empowered Committee has been set up at the regional offices of RBI to review the progress in rehabilitation of sick units in the SME sector. The Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises do not provide any grant/financial assistance to the States/UTs for revival of sick units.

Statement

State/Union Territory-wise Distribution of Closed Micro And Small Enterprises As Per Third All India Census, 2001-02

Sl. No.	Name of State/ Union Territory	Total no. of Closed Units
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	38582
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	248
3.	Assam	10338
4.	Bihar	20525
5.	Chhattisgarh	27830
6.	Goa	2327
7.	Gujarat	39159
8.	Haryana	27546
9.	Himachal Pradesh	6509
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	22709
11.	Jharkhand	13822
12.	Karnataka	46611
13.	Kerala	74832

1	2	3
14.	Madhya Pradesh	65649
15.	Maharashtra	54243
16.	Manipur	1226
17.	Meghalaya	1908
18.	Mizoram	1313
19.	Nagaland	129
20.	Orissa	9708
21.	Punjab	82731
22.	Rajasthan	36847
23.	Sikkim	155
24.	Tamilnadu	127185
25.	Tripura	1077
26.	Uttar Pradesh	122282
27.	Uttarakhand	12100
28.	West Bengal	26080
	State-Total	873671
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	515
2.	Chandigarh	1405
3.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	423
4.	Daman and Diu	454
5.	Delhi	8357
6.	Lakshadweep	16
7.	Pondicherry	2586
	Union Territory-Total	13756
	All India-Total	8,87,427

Production of Medicinal Plants

2808. DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of production of medicinal plants and herbs recorded as on date in the country particularly in Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, North-Eastern States and Uttaranchal during the last three years and thereafter till date, State-wise; and

(b) the assistance provided to encourage the production of said plants and herbs during the said period, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) The annual production of medicinal plants is estimated to be of 2.37 lakh tonnes. State-wise figures for such production are not available due to inter state trading and absence of authentic data from the trade centres/mandies.

(b) National Medicinal Plants Board is providing assistance for medicinal plants in all the States under cultivation schemes of the Board. A statement-I Showing the details of assistance provided for cultivation of medicinal plants by the Board during 2004-05 to 2006-07 is annexed. Ministry of Agriculture is also implementing two Centrally Sponsored Schemes namely National Horticulture Mission and Technology Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture in North Eastern States Sikkim, Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh & Uttaranchal in the country for holistic development of horticulture sector duly ensuring an end-to-end approach having forward and backward linkages covering research, production, post harvest management and marketing with the active participation of all the stake holders. The thrust of the Missions is on area based regionally differentiated cluster approach for development of horticulture crops including medicinal and aromatic plants. The assistance for area expansion under horticulture crops along with technical guidance for quality seed production to the growers is provided through extension programmes, which also help in enhancement of area, production and productivity of horticulture crops including medicinal and aromatic plants.

The details of the funds released for promotion of medicinal and aromatic plants under Missions during 2004-05 to 2006-07 are given in the enclosed statement-II.

Statement I**Financial assistance provided to the States under Contractual Farming Scheme of National Medicinal Plants Board**

*(Rs. in Lacs)

S.No.	State/UT	2004-05		2005-06				2006-07			
		No. of Projects sanctioned	Amount of assistance provided	No. of Projects sanctioned	Amount released as a 1st Installment (Amount Rs. in lacs)	2nd installment released	Amount of assistance provided	No. of Projects sanctioned	Amount released as a 1st Installment (Amount Rs. in lacs)	2nd installment released	Amount of assistance provided
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1.	Andhra Pradesh	48	27.62	86	32.92	0	32.92	62	45.45	12.36	57.81
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	20	50.22	6	18.61	0	18.61	30	42.66	4	46.66
3.	Assam	0	0.00	2	0.91	0	0.91	4	5.42	0	5.42
4.	Bihar	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	10	16.07	0	16.07
5.	Chhattisgarh	20	6.90	20	45.61	0	45.61	9	10.12	0	10.12
6.	Chandigarh	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0	0.00
7.	Delhi	1	0.98	0	0	0	0	2	3.41	0	3.41
8.	Gujarat	49	29.04	10	11.82	3.9	15.72	28	9.19	0	9.19
9.	Haryana	62	95.56	90	172.15	30.3	202.45	89	165.53	12.04	177.57
10.	Himachal Pradesh	4	6.41	59	120.25	0	120.25	86	115.08	0	115.08
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	2	5.54	32	30.65	0	30.65	23	37.39	0	37.39
12.	Jharkhand	0	0.00	2	2.01	0	2.01	0	0.00	0	0.00
13.	Karnataka	292	161.25	14	9.49	0	9.49	171	208.46	0	208.46
14.	Kerala	33	15.04	13	6.61	11.5	18.11	25	13.23	2.77	16.00
15.	Madhya Pradesh	266	296.99	194	178.91	183.95	362.86	280	289.72	238.96	528.68
16.	Maharashtra	80	40.68	86	113.44	0	113.44	138	160.67	0	160.67
17.	Manipur	96	231.66	56	139.94	31.23	171.17	0	0.00	47.99	47.99
18.	Nagaland	10	11.06	14	13.18	4	17.18	10	14.16	0	14.16
19.	Orissa	41	26.32	47	50.33	13.75	64.08	146	122.26	17.55	139.81
20.	Punjab	30	79.84	49	153.45	0	153.45	95	183.25	42.88	226.13
21.	Rajasthan	354	580.79	371	406.22	16.41	422.63	393	342.31	56.88	399.19
22.	Sikkim	19	20.40	11	14.74	0	14.74	52	47.71	12.49	60.20
23.	Tamil Nadu	18	14.13	28	46.96	1.25	48.21	8	14.69	2.81	17.50

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
24.	Tripura	1	4.22	0			0	0	0.00	0	0.00
25.	Uttar Pradesh	5	6.69	7	8.3	7.65	15.95	106	113.98	3	116.98
26.	Uttarakhand	61	59.61	25	31.68	6.45	38.13	35	57.73	17.01	74.74
27.	West Bengal	16	21.99	0	0	0	0	2	1.54	1	2.54
Total		1528	1792.89	1222	1608.18	310.39	1918.57	1804	2020.03	471.74	2491.77

Statement II

The details of the Funds Released for cultivation of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants under Technology Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture in NE States Sikkim, Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh & Uttaranchal and National Horticulture Mission during last three years.*

(Rs. in lakh)

S.No.	State	Medicinal plants			Aromatic plants		
		2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	52.00	26.00	8.75	25.00	50.00	6.25
2.	Assam	9.75	—	—	3.75	—	4.30
3.	Manipur	—	—	—	—	—	—
4.	Meghalaya	4.40	—	—	19.50	—	—
5.	Mizoram	—	—	—	10.00	—	10.00
6.	Nagaland	13.00	6.50	19.50	5.10	9.80	2.50
7.	Sikkim	1.30	—	—	0.25	—	—
8.	Tripura	—	—	—	—	—	—
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	—	—	—	—	—	—
10.	Himachal Pradesh	14.30	9.75	—	5.00	3.35	2.50
11.	Uttaranchal	—	5.30	—	1.00	0.50	1.25
12.	Chhattisgarh	—	—	—	—	183.38	—
13.	Jharkhand	—	—	—	—	22.50	—
14.	Haryana	—	—	—	—	—	22.50
15.	Karnataka	—	—	—	—	—	118.91
16.	Maharashtra	—	—	—	—	—	28.13

*Implemented since 2005-06.

Prices Under PDS

2809. SHRI SUBHASH SURESHCHANDRA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of below poverty line people in the country particularly in backward and rural areas, State-wise;

(b) whether the price of foodgrains and other essential items available to above poverty line people under PDS is almost equal to the price prevailing in open market;

(c) if so, whether the Government has taken or proposes to take any measures to reduce the prices of foodgrains, sugar, kerosene etc. for above poverty line and below poverty line beneficiaries; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) As per the Planning Commission poverty estimates released for 2004-05, number of persons living Below Poverty Line (BPL) in rural areas, based on Uniform Recall Period consumption (URP) is 2209.24 lakhs and percentage of BPL persons in rural areas is 28.3% in the country. The overall number and percentage of BPL persons State-wise based on the URP method is given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) and (c) No, Sir

(d) Does not arise.

Statement

Number and Percentage of Population below poverty line by states—2004-05 (Based on URP-Consumption)

Sl.No.	States/UTs	Rural	
		% age of Persons	No. of Persons (Lakh)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	11.2	64.70
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	22.3	1.94
3.	Assam	22.3	54.50

1	2	3	4
4.	Bihar	42.1	336.72
5.	Chhattisgarh	40.8	71.50
6.	Delhi	6.9	0.63
7.	Goa	5.4	0.36
8.	Gujarat	19.1	63.49
9.	Haryana	13.6	21.49
10.	Himachal Pradesh	10.7	6.14
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	4.6	3.66
12.	Jharkhand	46.3	103.19
13.	Karnataka	20.8	75.05
14.	Kerala	13.2	32.43
15.	Madhya Pradesh	36.9	175.65
16.	Maharashtra	29.6	171.13
17.	Manipur	22.3	3.76
18.	Meghalaya	22.3	4.36
19.	Mizoram	22.3	1.02
20.	Nagaland	22.3	3.87
21.	Orissa	46.8	151.75
22.	Punjab	9.1	15.12
23.	Rajasthan	18.7	87.38
24.	Sikkim	22.3	1.12
25.	Tamilnadu	22.8	76.50
26.	Tripura	22.3	6.18
27.	Uttar Pradesh	33.4	473.00
28.	Uttarakhand	40.8	27.11
29.	West Bengal	28.6	173.22
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	22.9	0.60

1	2	3	4
31.	Chandigarh	7.1	0.08
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	39.8	0.68
33.	Daman and Diu	5.4	0.07
34.	Lakshadweep	13.3	0.06
35.	Pondicherry	22.9	0.78
	All-India	28.3	2209.24

URP consumption = Uniform Recall Period consumption in which the consumer expenditure data for all the items are collected from 30-day recall period.

[English]

Shortage of Foodgrains In some Depots

2810. SHRI B. MAHTAB: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether shortage of foodgrain stocks in certain depots of Food Corporation of India (FCI) in various States particularly Orissa is adversely affecting the proper functioning of the Public Distribution System (PDS) in the States;

(b) if so, whether the Government has directed the FCI authorities in the States to ensure smooth inter-depot movement and rational placement of stock in all depots of the States for proper working of the PDS in the State; and

(c) if so, action taken thereon, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise. Further, during exigencies the General Managers, Region of FCI are already empowered to make inter-depot/district movement in case of non-availability of foodgrains at a particular depot.

Mobile Under Bharat Nirman Yojana

2811. SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal for village connectivity with reliable, viable and feasible telephone and radio-telephony including mobile under Bharat Nirman programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the funds allocated and the equipments allotted since the starting of the scheme, location-wise;

(d) whether there is any difference between normal telephone development programme and Bharat Nirman programmes; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) Under telephone component of Bharat Nirman Programme, Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) has entered into an agreement with Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) in November, 2004 for provision of Village Public Telephones (VPTs) in 66,822 remaining unconnected villages in the country. This excludes villages having population less than 100, lying in thick forest areas/naxalite infested areas etc. Out of these 66,822 villages, 14,183 remotely located villages were to be provided VPTs through Digital Satellite Phone Terminals (DSPTs). As on 31st July, 2007 a total number of 49,240 VPTs have been provided.

(c) A sum of Rs. 277.11 crore has been allocated by USOF for the scheme during the year 2006-07 and 2007-08. Out of this, Rs. 87.25 crore has been disbursed as subsidy support for provision of these VPTs since the starting of the scheme. Details are given below:

(Rs. in crore)		
Year	Allocation	Subsidy disbursement
2005-06		29.86
2006-07	117.11	55.40
2007-08 (First Quarter)	160.00	1.99

A statement indicating the year-wise and State-wise details of disbursements of funds for provision of VPTs as on 31st July, 2007 is enclosed. The allotment of the equipment is not a part of the scheme.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) In addition to Bharat Nirman Programme, USOF has launched another scheme for provision of subsidy support for setting up and managing 7871 number of infrastructure sites (towers) in 500 districts spread over

27 States for provision of mobile services in the specified rural and remote areas, where there is no existing fixed wireless or mobile coverage. The infrastructure so created shall be shared by three service providers for provision of mobile service including other Wireless Access Services like Wireless on Local Loop (WLL). The agreements effective from 01.06.2007 have been signed with the successful bidders in May, 2007. Mobile services through these shared towers are targeted to be made operational in a phased manner by May, 2008.

Statement

Year-wise and State-wise Disbursements of Funds for Provision OF VPTs as on 31st July, 2007

Sl. No.	Name of the State/Service Area	Payments released in 2005-06	Payments released in 2006-07	Payments released in 2007-08 (upto 31.7.2007)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0.61	0.75	0.00
2.	Assam	0.00	10.66	0.00
3.	Jharkhand	0.00	0.32	0.00
4.	Gujarat	3.08	1.62	0.00
5.	Himachal Pradesh	0.63	1.28	0.00
6.	Jammu and Kashmir	0.26	1.57	1.05
7.	Madhya Pradesh	11.79	14.79	0.00
8.	Chhattisgarh	1.66	4.42	0.00
9.	Maharashtra	0.28	10.02	0.94
10.	North East-I (Meghalaya, Mizoram & Tripura)	0.00	0.12	0.00
11.	North East-II (Nagaland, Manipur & Arunachal Pradesh)	0.00	0.36	0.00
12.	Orissa	0.00	0.00	0.00
13.	Rajasthan	11.55	9.49	0.00
14.	Uttaranchal	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total		29.86	55.40	1.99

New Cotton Variety

2812. SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Agricultural Research Institute

(IARI) scientists have developed new cotton varieties which is pest-proof;

(b) if so, the details and features thereof;

(c) whether the new cotton varieties have been tested; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Yes, Sir. The scientists of Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI) in collaboration with the University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad, have developed a new cotton variety, which is under evaluation for bollworm resistance.

(b) A Bt gene (truncated codon-modified *cryIAC* gene) was introduced into a popular cotton variety Bikaneri Narma. The delta endotoxin expressed in the cotton plant is expected to cause bollworm mortality.

(c) The genetically modified cotton variety is being tested for its biosafety and its performance in terms of agronomy and bollworm infestation level. The variety is proposed for field-testing in South Zone.

(d) The Genetically modified cotton variety is resistant to bollworms.

Education to Farmers

2813. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken steps to educate the farmers to use modern agricultural implements to increase production;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government have set-up four Farm Machinery Training & Testing Institutes at Budni (MP), Hissar (Haryana), Garladinne (AP) and Biswanath Chariali (Assam) to impart on-the job training to farmers as well as other beneficiaries on different aspects of agricultural mechanization besides undertaking testing of agricultural equipments for upgrading their quality. The training programmes for the benefit of farmers are on selection,

operation, maintenance and management aspects of agricultural prime movers, implements and machines.

The Government is also providing financial assistance of Rs. 2500/- per farmer per month to the State Governments based on their proposals for outsourcing of training of farmers through the institutions identified by the States.

The Directorate of Extension of the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation is also educating farmers through Agricultural Technology Management Agency (ATMA), Mass Media Support, Kisan Call Centres, Agri-clinics and Agri-Business Centres and Agricultural fairs at Block, District, State and National levels.

Central Institute of Agricultural Engineering, Bhopal regularly conducts training programmes for the farmers through its Krishi Vigyan Kendras on use of modern agricultural implements and machinery.

Under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), the All India Coordinated Research Project on Farm Implements and Machinery through 23 centres spread all over the country conducts frontline demonstrations of improved equipment for facilitating the farmers to learn about the new equipment and their use.

Besides institutional on the job training and on-site training, the farmers are also educated by way of field demonstration of new technology equipment/implements at their fields through States/UTs and Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR). Government of India is providing 100% grant-in-aid for procurement of such equipment and contingency expenditure for conducting field demonstrations.

(c) In view of (a) and (b), question does not arise.

Soil Health Card

2814. SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to distribute soil health card to farmers; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND

PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a)
Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government is promoting the distribution of Soil Health Cards (SHC) under Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Balanced and Integrated Use of Fertilizer" and 12.66 million SHC has been distributed to the farmers by the State Governments/U.Ts in the country.

[Translation]

Agricultural Growth Rate

2815. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to prepare any action plan to accelerate the agricultural growth rate in Eastern and North Eastern regions of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the present position of agricultural growth rate in Eastern and North Eastern regions of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) The National Development Council (NDC) in its 53rd meeting held on 29th May, 2007 emphasized to evolve a strategy to rejuvenate agriculture in the country including Eastern and North Eastern regions. The strategy involves, *inter alia*, the following crucial elements:

- * State Governments are to prepare District and State Agriculture Plans for prioritizing the investment in the sector.
- * Introduction of a new scheme for Additional Central Assistance (ACA) to State Plans. The newly created National Rainfed Area Authority (NRAA) would assist States in planning for rainfed areas.
- * Provision of additional resources for irrigation.
- * Strategic focus on the national agricultural research effort.
- * New initiatives for skill development for the farming community.

The Government of India has recently approved two schemes for enhancement of foodgrains productivity and production and for improving overall growth of agriculture in the country. These are: (i) National Food Security Mission (NFSM) to increase production of rice, wheat and pulses, and (ii) Additional Central Assistance Scheme (ACAS) for implementing the State and District Plans for agricultural development.

(c) According to data compiled by Central Statistical Organisation, the growth rate in agriculture at constant (1999-2000) prices in the Eastern and North Eastern regions of the country for the latest available years 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06 is given below:

Growth Rate in Agriculture at constant (1999-2000) prices (% growth over previous year)

S.No.	State/UT	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	6.68	-3.48	1.97
2.	Assam	1.54	2.57	7.56
3.	Bihar	-18.23	14.90	-12.09
4.	Jharkhand	2.27	18.59	3.60
5.	Manipur	16.22	10.82	2.26
6.	Meghalaya	2.11	1.36	7.80
7.	Mizoram	-1.66	4.17	N.A.
8.	Nagaland	10.08	N.A.	N.A.
9.	Orissa	27.16	3.98	N.A.
10.	Sikkim	8.23	5.49	5.21
11.	West Bengal	3.26	0.95	1.72

Source : Central Statistical Organisation.

N.A. : Not Available.

Data for Tripura are not available.

[English]

Removal of Cotton from Agricultural Commodities

2816. SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has recently removed cotton from the list of Essential Commodities;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any request has been received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh to reinclude cotton in the list of Essential Commodities in view of increase in the price of seeds of Bt. Cotton; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (d) The Essential Commodities Act, 1955 has been amended and the Essential Commodities (Amendment) Act, 2006 has come into force on 12th February, 2007. Cotton and woollen textiles, along with some other commodities, have been deleted from the list of essential commodities in the wake of introduction of Textile Development Bill, 2005 in Parliament, which seeks to liberalize textile industry.

The Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested for renotification of cotton seed as essential commodity. Government has taken note of the State Government's request. Further, the Government has the power to add or remove any commodity as essential commodity under the amended act.

BSNL as Navratna

2817. SHRI SUNIL KHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to grant the Navratna status to Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) Sir, the Government considered the proposal to grant Navratna status to Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited but did not find it eligible for the Navratna status as it does not fulfil requisite eligibility criteria.

[Translation]

Climatic Change

2818. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH "LALAN":

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government's attention has been drawn towards the report of United Nations Food and Agricultural Organisation wherein it has been stated that agricultural production in India can reduce by 125 million tonne due to climatic change;

(b) if so, whether the Government has studied the report;

(c) if so, the details and outcome thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;

(d) whether the Government is considering to take steps effective to save agricultural production from such ill-effects; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (e) FAO Newsroom of Food & Agriculture Organisation (FAO) of United Nations, reported that Climate change is likely to undermine food production in the developing world, while industrialized countries could gain in production potential. It has also been mentioned that Crop yield potential is likely to increase at higher latitudes for global average temperature increases of up to 1 to 3°C depending on the crop, and then decrease beyond that. On the contrary, at lower latitudes, especially in the seasonally dry tropics, crop yield potential is likely to decline for even small global temperature rises, which would increase the risk of hunger. It has also been reported that greater frequency of droughts and floods would affect local production negatively, especially in subsistence sectors at low latitudes. It has also been claimed that Rainfed Agriculture in marginal areas in semi-arid and sub-humid regions is mostly at risk and India could lose 125 million tons of its rainfed cereal production—equivalent to 18 percent of its total production. The impacts of climate change on forests and on forest dependent people are already evident in increased incidences of forest fires and outbreaks of forest pests and diseases. Climate change adaptation will be needed in a variety of ecosystems, including agro-ecosystems (crops, livestock and grasslands) forests and woodlands, inland waters and coastal and marine ecosystems. This reporting is based on the speech of the FAO Director General Dr. Jacques Diouf in a Conference held at M.S. Swaminathan Foundation in Chennai recently.

Considering the possible impacts climate change could have on Indian agriculture and economy, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has launched in 2004 a National Network Project on "Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability of Indian Agriculture to Climate Change". The major objectives of this Project are to quantify the sensitivity of crops including horticultural crops and plantations, soils, water, fish and livestock to global climatic changes.

In addition to above, Government of India is implementing various programmes namely, (i) National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Area (NWDPR), (ii) Soil Conservation for Enhancing the Productivity of Degraded Lands in the Catchments of River Valley Project and Flood Prone River (RVP & FPR), (iii) Reclamation of Alkali Soil (RAS), (iv) Watershed Development Project in Shifting Cultivation Areas (WDPSA), (v) Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP), (vi) Desert Development Programme (DDP), (vii) Integrated Wasteland Development Project (IWDP), (viii) National Afforestation Programme (NAP), (ix) National Horticulture Mission, (x) Micro Irrigation Scheme, (xi) National Project on Organic Farming, and (xii) Integrated Pest Management for resource conservation and to promote efficient utilization of soil, water and other nutrients etc. for sustainable agricultural production in the country.

Foodgrains for Welfare Organisations

2819. SHRIMATI BHAVANA PUNDALIKRAO GAWALI:
SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is implementing any scheme for supply of foodgrains to hostels and Welfare Institutions engaged in the work of helping shelterless and homeless people;

(b) if so, the details and guidelines thereof;

(c) whether this scheme has been implemented in the State of Maharashtra;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of the foodgrains allocated and supplied to the State of Maharashtra during the last three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. To assist in meeting foodgrain requirement of Hostels/Welfare Institutions viz. Non-Government Organisation/Charitable Institutions which help the shelterless/homeless poor and other categories not covered under Targeted Public Distribution System or any other Welfare Schemes, an additional allocation of foodgrains (rice & wheat) equal to 5% of the below poverty line (BPL) allocation of each State/Union Territory (UT) is being made to States/UTs at BPL rates, since 2002-03. Earlier allocation to the States/UTs was rationalized with effect from August, 2005, on the basis of offtake during the previous years.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. This scheme is being implemented in the State of Maharashtra since 2002-03. The allocation/offtake of foodgrains under the scheme in Maharashtra during the last three years is as under :

(In '000' Tonnes)

Year	Allocation	Offtake
2004-05	105.79	30.87
2005-06	62.52	15.26
2006-07	25.20	15.39

[English]

Horticulture University

2820. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Karnataka is eager to rope in New York's Council University to provide help in establishing a horticulture university in the State;

(b) if so, whether council had done pioneering work in various areas relating to agriculture; and

(c) if so, the time by which the final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a)

No, Sir. However, exchange visits of teams from Government of Karnataka and the Cornell University have taken place for establishing collaboration and starting a Agri-food Business Management Programme in the proposed University of Horticulture, Karnataka.

(b) and (c) Question does not arise.

Items Under Antyodaya Anna Yojana

2821. SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the items being provided to the beneficiaries under the Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY);

(b) whether there is any proposal to increase the number of items included under AAY to provide wholesome nutrition to the beneficiaries; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) At present wheat, rice and coarse grains, sugar and kerosene are being provided to the beneficiaries under AAY.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Question does not arise.

Squadron Strength of Air Force

2822. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India's fighter squadron strength has dwindled from 45 sanctioned squadrons to around 32 squadrons in position presently;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken to increase the squadron strength;

(c) whether order for purchase of multi-role combat aircraft is likely to be finalized; and

(d) if so, whether the Government will ensure that no middleman will be allowed in the deal so that India

gets best possible offer in terms of price and quality of the product?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A. K. ANTONY): (a) and (b) The security environment and the requirements of the Air Force are constantly reviewed by the Government and steps are taken from time to time to induct new aircraft as well as to upgrade existing aircraft to sustain force levels. This is an ongoing process.

(c) and (d) Request for Proposal for purchase of multi-role combat aircraft for the Air Force has been issued. The purchase will be made in accordance with the established Defence Procurement Procedure.

Allotment of Spectrum

2823. SHRI ANIL BASU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the technology and allotment of Spectrum to private telecom operators had created a bottleneck for expansion of MTNL/BSNL;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of technology and spectrum which had been allotted to private telecom operators and not allotted to MTNL/BSNL?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) The telecom operators, including MTNL/BSNL had been allotted spectrum based on their request for technology and spectrum and also taking into account the relevant provisions of their respective telecom service licences.

[*Translation*]

Instant money order scheme

2824. SHRI ANIRUDH PRASAD ALIAS SADHU YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Instant Money Order (IMO) facility being provided in the country is functioning satisfactorily;

- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has any proposal to increase such IMO centres in the country; and
- (d) if so, the total number of people benefited from this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The State-wise details of performance of Instant Money Order from date of launch, 20.01.2006 till 31.07.2007 are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) Yes, Sir. It is proposed to expand IMO Centres to all Head Post Offices and select Sub Post Offices by March, 2008.

(d) A target of 62,000 transactions has been fixed for financial year 2007-08 which if achieved will benefit 62,000 remitters and 62,000 payees directly.

Statement

State-wise Performance of Instant Money order from 20.01.2006 Till 31.07.2007

Sl. No.	State	Number of Transactions	Remitted Amount (in Rs.)	Service Charge Collected (in Rs.)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	768	6,809,658.00	132000.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	57	362,750.00	9250.00
3.	Assam	197	2,117,780.00	35190.00
4.	Bihar	541	5,101,883.00	94170.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	425	3,249,975.00	71390.00
6.	Goa	54	436,330.00	9180.00
7.	Gujarat	606	5,390,871.00	104060.00
8.	Haryana	371	2,124,440.00	59610.00
9.	Himachal Pradesh	90	820,800.00	15540.00
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	5	23,500.00	790.00
11.	Jharkhand	269	1,722,390.00	43810.00
12.	Karnataka	1597	11,835,946.00	265710.00
13.	Kerala	787	7,286,348.00	136710.00
14.	Madhya Pradesh	367	2,759,892.00	61210.00
15.	Maharashtra	2423	19,188,669.00	407790.00
16.	Manipur	170	1,581,750.00	29520.00
17.	Meghalaya	124	901,529.00	20580.00
18.	Mizoram	58	415,440.00	9680.00
19.	Nagaland	101	1,529,895.00	19690.00
20.	Orissa	130	1,009,360.00	21840.00

1	2	3	4	5
21.	Punjab	319	2,641,488.00	54230.00
22.	Rajasthan	396	4,049,950.00	69940.00
23.	Sikkim	40	377,295.00	6920.00
24.	Tamil Nadu	1037	7,030,319.00	170770.00
25.	Tripura	109	1,058,543.00	19010.00
26.	Uttar Pradesh	962	6,992,117.00	159760.00
27.	Uttarakhand	157	1,319,813.00	26970.00
28.	West Bengal	730	7,617,849.00	129780.00
Total		12890	105,756,580.00	2185100.00

*[English]***Fall in Prices of Arecanut**

2825. SHRI M. SHIVANNA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the steep fall in prices has pushed arecanut farmers in the country, particularly Karnataka into debt trap;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the remedial steps taken/being taken by the Government to rescue the arecanut farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) Annual average Wholesale Price Index (WPI) for arecanut (with base 1993-94=100) was 163.9 for the country as a whole during the year 2006 which shows an increasing trend and reached 165.7 by the week ending 11th August 2007. The Wholesale Prices of arecanut in Mangalore Market (Karnataka) for 'new supari variety' for the year 2006-07 was Rs. 7376 per quintal, which, however, has fallen to Rs. 6974 per quintal in June 2007.

(c) Consistent increase in area under arecanut and its production in the country and particularly in Karnataka from 1998-99 onwards on the one hand and limited growth in its domestic consumption have their impact on prices. Government of India is exploring the possibility of developing technologies for enhancing the pharmaceutical, industrial and cosmetic uses of arecanut.

*[Translation]***Agricultural Proposals**

2826. CHAUDHARY BIJENDRA SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details regarding the State Government, particularly Uttar Pradesh, that have sent agriculture related proposals to the Union Government pertaining to various schemes;

(b) the details of the projects approved by the Union Government;

(c) the details of those projects which have not been granted approval, State-wise; and

(d) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Department has not received any special proposals from the State of Uttar Pradesh. The Department of Agriculture & Cooperation is implementing a number of Centrally Sponsored Schemes for increasing production and productivity in the agriculture sector. The list of Centrally Sponsored Schemes being implemented by the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation may be seen at enclosed statement-I. Under these schemes State Governments submit their proposals. The Department examines these proposals and approves their Annual

Action Plans and thereafter the funds are released to the State Government concerned. Details of the schematic outlays during the current financial year (2007-08) are given in the enclosed statement-II.

(c) and (d) Does not arise in view of the reply at (a) above.

Statement I

Name of the Central Sponsored Schemes being implemented by the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation during 2007-08.

1. Macro Management of Agriculture

2. Technology Mission on Cotton (TMC - MM II)
3. Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oilpalm and Maize (ISOPOM)
4. Technology Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture in North-Eastern States
5. Support to State Extension Programmes for Extension Reforms
6. Micro Irrigation
7. National Horticulture Mission
8. National Bamboo Mission

Statement II

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl.No.	State	Macro Management of Agriculture Scheme	Technology Mission on Cotton (TMC-MM-II)	Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oilpalm and Maize (ISOPOM)	Technology Mission for Integrated Dev. of Horticulture in North-Eastern States	Support to State Extension Programmes for Extension Reforms	Micro Irrigation	National Horticulture Mission	National Bamboo Mission
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5777.78	1640.00	11260.58	0.00	3025.77	2089.13	13547.018	112.80
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2406.00	0.00	0.00	2500.00	194.59	0.00	0.00	0.00
3.	Assam	*	0.00	0.00	2200.00	1333.60	0.00	0.00	0.00
4.	Bihar	2666.67	0.00	8561.27	0.00	1780.91	0.00	9871.47	608.95
5.	Jharkhand	1649.22	0.00	0.00	0.00	1112.43	0.00	7456.22	0.00
6.	Goa	333.33	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	127.37	0.00
7.	Gujarat	4833.33	1500.00	2603.00	0.00	689.89	7349.60	6375.00	204.98
8.	Haryana	2482.64	425.00	1425.96	0.00	310.20	0.00	8854.69	0.00
9.	Himachal Pradesh	2427.91	0.00	90.73	2400.00	492.79	0.00	0.00	0.00
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	2488.88	0.00	289.35	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	357.78
11.	Jharkhand	6641.70	610.00	3882.00	0.00	1112.43	1233.82	12980.27	0.00
12.	Karnataka	1265.08	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	16330.84	151.00
13.	Kerala	7098.41	660.00	11627.00	0.00	1191.62	0.00	9406.52	601.59
14.	Madhya Pradesh	2611.11	0.00	1517.97	0.00	557.34	0.00	9102.95	0.00
15.	Maharashtra	12843.24	2000.00	3123.86	0.00	915.21	0.00	21492.38	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
16.	Manipur	1989.53	0.00	0.00	2300.00	121.26	0.00	0.00	0.00
17.	Meghalaya	2405.40	0.00	721.97	2200.00	177.23	0.00	0.00	0.00
18.	Mizoram	1563.88	0.00	0.00	2300.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
19.	Nagaland	2397.52	0.00	0.00	2500.00	148.05	0.00	0.00	1565.86#
20.	Orissa	3666.67	170.00	1902.20	0.00	1613.00	0.00	8075.00	0.00
21.	Punjab	1444.44	10.00	490.97	0.00	749.72	0.00	6384.45	0.00
22.	Rajasthan	9550.50	500.00	4800.00	0.00	2272.34	0.00	6885.66	220.45
23.	Sikkim	1805.75	0.00	0.00	2800.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
24.	Tamilnadu	6055.55	360.00	2587.92	0.00	1258.19	0.00	20305.54	262.89
25.	Tripura	2163.03	40.00	0.00	2200.00	210.35	0.00	0.00	664.90
26.	Uttar Pradesh	8158.06	50.00	3000.00	0.00	3258.97	0.00	15199.16	410.19
27.	Uttarakhand	2825.76	0.00	0.00	2400.00	665.49	0.00	0.00	502.26
28.	West Bengal	3073.36	350.00	1400.00	0.00	885.62	0.00	2522.29	0.00

*The work Plan 2007-08 submitted by the State Govt. of Assam not approved due to availability of unspent balance under the scheme with the State Government.

*Including PM's Package.

Incentive to Farmers

2827. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to formulate any scheme for providing incentive to the farmers of agriculture oriented States particularly of Bihar so that they are attracted towards Agriculture Sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. A Centrally Sponsored Scheme "National Food Security Mission (NFSM)" has been approved to enhance the production of rice, wheat and pulses during the XI Five Year Plan with three components viz. National Food Security Mission-Rice (NFSM-Rice), National Food

Security Mission-Wheat (NFSM-Wheat) and National Food Security Mission-Pulses (NFSM-Pulses). The NFSM is to be implemented in identified districts of 16 States including Bihar. Under the Mission, assistance for critical inputs such as seeds, micro-nutrients, Integrated Nutrient Management (INM), Integrated Pest Management (IPM), sprinkler, pumpsets and transfer of technology through demonstrations and farmers' training etc. is provided.

In addition, Government of India has also approved "Additional Central Assistance Scheme (ACA)" to incentivise the States to increase agricultural funding for enhancing agricultural production and productivity. The States are to prepare State and district agricultural plan for their agricultural sector taking agro-climatic conditions, natural resources, and technology into account, and integrated livestock, poultry and fisheries more comprehensively and to ensure the base line share of agriculture and allied sector in its total State plan expenditure to avail the assistance under Additional Central Assistance Scheme (ACA). All States/UTs including Bihar are eligible for assistance under the scheme.

*[English]***Defence Industrial Park in Kerala**

2828. SHRI P. C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some States are encouraging defence production units;

(b) if so, the details of such units, State-wise;

(c) whether there are proposals from Kerala to put up such units as also a Defence Industrial Park in the State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and response of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (RAO Inderjit Singh): (a) to (d) While the States are encouraging new industrial units with certain incentives, no specific scheme for encouraging defence production units has come to the notice of the Central Government. However, a proposal has been received from the Government of Kerala in January 2007 for setting up of a defence production park. There is no plan at present to set up any Defence Industrial Park in the country.

Production in Sugar Mills

2829. SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of sugar mills in the country, sector-wise and State-wise;

(b) whether any survey has been conducted recently regarding the production of sugar in these mills particularly in Bareilly region of Uttar Pradesh;

(c) if so, the details and outcome thereof indicating the production capacity and actual production in these mills;

(d) whether the Government proposes to constitute a corporation to conduct regular surveys; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) A statement indicating the number of sugar mills, State-wise and sector-wise in the country as on 31st July, 2007 is enclosed.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) At present, there is no such proposal under consideration of the Government.

(e) Does not arise.

Statement

The Number of sugar mills, State-wise and sector-wise in the country as on 31st July, 2007

(Position as on 31.07.2007)

State	Public Sector (State Owned)	Private Sector	Cooperative Sector	Total
1	2	3	4	5
Punjab	—	7	16	23
Haryana	—	3	12	15
Rajasthan	1	1	1	3
Uttar Pradesh	33	85	28	146
Uttaranchal	2	4	4	10
Madhya Pradesh	2	4	5	11
Chhattisgarh	—	—	1	1
Gujarat	—	1	22	23
Maharashtra	—	24	165	189

1	2	3	4	5
Bihar	15	13	—	28
Assam	—	1	2	3
Orissa	1	4	4	8
West Bengal	1	1	—	2
Andhra Pradesh	1	27	15	43
Karnataka	3	28	23	54
Tamilnadu	3	20	16	39
Pondicherry	—	1	1	2
Kerala	—	1	1	2
Goa	—	—	1	1
Nagaland	1	—	—	1
Total	62	225	317	604

The statement does not include 6 sugar factories viz. Talaja (Gujarat), Pachrukhi (Bihar), Dalmianagar (Bihar), Sivkarni (A.P.), Mailpatti (T.N.), Mannam (Kerala), as they have not operated for more than last 20 years and their capacity has been treated as dormant.

Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute

2830. DR. M. JAGANNATH:

SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI) has launched India's first Open Sea Cage Project, an eco-friendly method of fish farming;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the success achieved therein; and

(c) the total estimated capacity of fish that can be reared in the open sea cage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI), Kochi, has launched "Open Sea Cage Project on Finfish Farming" at Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh. The site was selected after scientific evaluation of its suitability. The cage with HDP net of 15 m diameter and 6 m height was installed in the sea along with a surrounding net to avoid predators. The total weight of cage is around 1500 kg. The cage was fabricated right on the beach and manually launched on 30.04.2007. About 10,000 fish seeds of Asian seabass weighing 50 g each were released into the cage. The fishes were fed with trash fish twice a day in tune with their body weight. The total cost of cage works out to the tune of Rs. 6.5 lakh. During 40 days of cage culture period, the fish attained a weight of 250-450 g each with a mean weight of 300 g. In due course of time, it is also planned to launch similar type of cage at Mandapam, Diu and Ratnagiri.

(c) The total estimated capacity of fish that can be reared in the Open Sea Cage is around 15,000 fingerlings of fish with an anticipated production of 10 tonnes of fish within a period of 4-5 months.

Non-payment of Compensation to Employees by Firms/Companies

2831. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether complaints have been received regarding termination of services and non-payment of adequate compensation to employees by firms/companies; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken/proposed to be taken to ensure justice to retrenched employees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) and (b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Non-availability of Recharge Coupons

2832. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has suffered a potential loss of revenue of Rs. 275 crore due to non-availability of recharge coupons/top up cards in Uttar Pradesh during 2005-2006;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any inquiry has been conducted in this regard;

(d) if so, the findings thereof;

(e) whether the recharge coupons/top up cards were not made available in Uttar Pradesh by BSNL to favour private cellular operators; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) No, Sir. However, audit has pointed out potential loss of revenue which has not been accepted by BSNL.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise in view of (e) above.

Communication Network

2833. SHRI VIJAY BAHUGUNA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to provide Communication Network in the remote and backward areas of the State of Uttarakhand; and

(b) the areas, where this connectivity has not been provided so far, location-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme

2834. DR. K. DHANARAJU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the introduction of Rural Guarantee Employment Scheme in the country is facing shortage of manpower for doing unskilled labour work for farming;

(b) if so, whether any survey has been conducted in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to make the unskilled labour available for farming?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (d) National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS) was introduced from February, 2006 in given districts of the country, for securing livelihood to households whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work. The scheme is a demand-driven scheme. During 2006-07, about 2.12 crore rural households demanded employment, out of which 2.10 crore households were provided employment. No report on shortage of manpower for doing unskilled work for farming has been received in the Government.

*[Translation]***Losses to Poultry Industry**

2835. PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:
SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is making any assessment of the loss suffered by poultry industry in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the total amount of loss suffered during the last three years and thereafter till date, State- wise;

(c) whether the worst affected States have been identified in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to promote poultry industry during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) and (b) The Government does not assess losses suffered by poultry industry due to routine management lapses. However, a compensation of Rs. 785.12 lakhs was provided as compensation to poultry farmers in Maharashtra, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh due to culling of bird and destruction of feed in the wake of occurrence of bird flu in these States. In the case of outbreak of bird flu in Manipur, an amount of Rs. 70.00 lakhs (approx.) has been paid as compensation to the concerned poultry farmers.

(c) and (d) The States of Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and Manipur were the worst affected due to occurrence of bird flu in these States.

(e) The Government is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on 'Assistance to State Poultry/Duck Farms' to strengthen the existing State Government Farms for promotion of backyard poultry production. Further, the 'Dairy/Poultry Venture Capital Fund' provides financial assistance to individuals interested in taking up poultry farming. The Central Poultry Development Organisations

provide training to farmers in various aspects of poultry farming in their respective regions. The Government has also allowed import of maize at nil duty till 31.12.2007 to increase its availability for use in poultry feed.

*[English]***Funds for Agricultural Research**

2836. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the funds earmarked for agricultural research during Eleventh Five Year Plan;

(b) whether there is a need to increase investment on agricultural research in the country; and

(c) if so, the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) The funds for Eleventh Five Year Plan of DARE/ICAR are yet to be communicated by Planning Commission. However, Rs. 1620 crore has been allocated for the year 2007-08.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Department has submitted Eleventh Five Year Plan Proposal of Rs. 12176.40 crore to Planning Commission. In addition, a proposal for "Mini Mission-1 on Wheat, Rice and Pulses" with an outlay of Rs. 1130 crore and for "Enhancing Regional Research and Educational Capabilities—Modernization of Research and Instructional Farms and Laboratories of the Agricultural Universities" with an outlay of Rs. 760 crore has also been submitted to the Planning Commission.

*[Translation]***Losses to Apple Crops**

2837. DR. COL. (RETD.) DHANI RAM SHANDIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the apple producers of Himachal Pradesh have suffered huge loss due to hailstorm in May-June, 2007;

(b) whether the Government of Himachal Pradesh has sought any assistance from the Central Government; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Non-working of Mobile Tower

2838. MOHD. MUKEEM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the mobile towers in rural areas of Sidharth Nagar, Deoria, Basti, Gonda, Dumariaganj and Azamgarh Districts of Uttar Pradesh are not functioning properly due to which subscribers are compelled to use mobiles of other companies than the BSNL;

(b) if so, whether the mobile towers installed at Thekma Exchange of Azamgarh does not work properly as the network of cell one of BSNL mobile always shows Chhau, Bindra Bazar in this area; and

(c) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (c) Sir, Global System for Mobile Communications (GSM) based Cellular Mobile Telephone Service being provided by BSNL in the rural areas of Uttar Pradesh (East) Telecom Circle including Sidharth Nagar, Deoria, Basti, Gonda, Dumariaganj Station and Azamgarh districts is working satisfactorily at present. Base Transceiver Station (BTS)—cellsite at Thekma Exchange in Azamgarh has been optimized so as to ensure that the same serves as the primary BTS for the said area. BSNL has also planned to install three new BTSs in adjoining areas of Thekma Exchange in Azamgarh during the current financial year.

The cellular mobile network of BSNL is also continuously optimized for its performance and monitoring of the network has been strengthened by BSNL to ensure performance as per the Quality of Service parameters

prescribed by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI).

Agriculture Production

2839. SHRI VIJOY KRISHNA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the latest position of India in agriculture production in the world at present, crop-wise; and

(b) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to make India a leading country in agricultural production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Following table gives the position India occupied in 2005 (latest available year) in the production of some major crops in the world:

Crop	India's Position
Paddy	Second
Wheat	Second
Maize	Sixth
Chick Peas (Gram)	First
Groundnut	Second
Rapeseed & Mustard	Third
Soyabean	Fifth
Sugarcane	Second
Cottonseed	Third
Onion	Second
Potato	Third

Source: FAO website accessed on 28.08.2007.

(b) To increase agricultural production, Centrally Sponsored Schemes Integrated Cereals Development Programme (ICDP) in Rice, Wheat and Coarse Cereals are in place from October 2000. To increase the productivity of oilseeds, pulses and maize, Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize" (ISOPOM) is in place since 01.04.2004.

The Government of India has recently approved two schemes for increasing the productivity and production of foodgrains and improving the agricultural growth in the country. These are (i) National Food Security Mission (NFSM), and (ii) Additional Central Assistance Scheme (ACAS).

[English]

Jammu-Srinagar National Highway

2840. SHRI HITEN BARMAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Jammu-Srinagar National Highway was closed several times for vehicular traffic due to landslides during last year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Border Road Organisation (BRO) had prepared any road map to clear the landslides to tackle such situations;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the amount spent by Government in removing the landslides during last year; and

(f) the manpower used by Government to tackle these cases during last year?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A. K. ANTONY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It was closed eight times for more than one day at a time at different places for a total numbers of 25 days during 2006-2007.

(c) and (d) BRO have deployed additional resources at landslide prone areas to take up the clearance work as soon as they occur. As long-term measures Snow and Avalanche Study Establishment (SASE) have constructed some avalanche control structures on the Highways. In addition Geological Survey of India (GSI) and National Data Management System under Department of Science & Technology are conducting studies to suggest measures for stabilization of the landslide prone areas.

(e) Rs. 81.73 Lakhs.

(f) A total of 6553 man-days were spent.

[Translation]

Maintenance of N.H. 22

2841. PROF. PREM KUMAR DHUMAL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Highway No. 22 is the only road which connects tribal district Kinnour in Himachal Pradesh and Indo-Tibet Border with the country and which is maintained by GREF;

(b) if so, whether the GREF is unable to maintain it due to lack of funds and manpower;

(c) if so, whether the Government proposes to transfer the maintenance of the said road to Public Works Department of Himachal Pradesh or provide sufficient Central Assistance to it for procuring heavy machinery etc. so that the said road may be kept open for use during the time of heavy snowfall and other natural calamities; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) No decision on transfer of National Highway-22 to State Public Works Department has been taken and adequate funds are being provided to BRO for proper upkeep of the road. During 2007-2008, allocation of Rs. 13.46 crores has been made for improvement, maintenance and snow clearance of this National Highway.

Brahmos Missile

2842. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether defence scientists have developed Brahmos Missile for submarines;

(b) if so, whether this missile has been tested;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether research for development of Brahmos is continuously going on after its successful test fire; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A. K. ANTONY) (a) to (c) Brahmos supersonic cruise missile has gone through a series of successful flight trials launched from ship and from road mobile launchers for Navy and Army. The system has been inducted in the Indian Navy and Indian Army. The missile, which can be launched from submarine, is also ready and awaiting the necessary platform for trials. Indian Navy will soon identify the platform.

(d) and (e) The development of Air version of the Brahmos missile is also in progress and will be integrated on IL-38 for the Navy and SU-30 MKI for the Air Force.

[English]

Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana

2843. SHRI S. K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has launched Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to reward the States which are performing well in the Agricultural Sector; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Yes, Sir. An Additional Central Assistance Scheme, to incentivize the States that draw up plans for their agriculture sector more comprehensively has been launched by the Ministry of Agriculture. The scheme will be known as Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY).

(b) and (c) The eligibility for assistance from the Centre would depend upon States preparing District/State Agriculture Plans and providing amounts in the State Plan budgets for agriculture and allied sectors over and above the baseline percentage expenditure incurred by the State Governments on agriculture and allied sectors,

(d) As in (b) and (c) above.

Adulteration in Edible Oil

2844. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether cases of adulteration of tallow including beef and pig tallow in vegetable oils has been reported recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any raids have been conducted in this regard;

(d) if so, the details and outcome thereof indicating the number of raids conducted alongwith the names of the companies and quantum of goods seized; and

(e) the action taken to check the recurrence of such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (e) The samples of food commodities, including oils and fats are lifted from time to time by the State Governments/UT Governments, who implement Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 and prevention of Food Adulteration Rules, 1955. While checking adulteration, wherever necessary, raids are also conducted.

However, no case of adulteration of tallow including beef and pig tallow in vegetable oils has been reported by the State/UT Governments.

Communication Network for Defence Forces

2845. SHRI K. S. RAO: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the measures required to be taken to safeguard the security of defence forces communication network used for strategic weapons systems and command and control of widely spread defence establishments;

(b) whether the Government proposes to create entirely separate and secure alternative communication network for defence forces to safeguard the security of country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A. K. ANTONY): (a) to (c) Defence Networks are laid for the exclusive use of Defence Forces and Bulk Encryption Units (BEUs) approved by the Scientific Advisory Group (SAG) are used to protect data enroute. The Ministry of Communication & IT has already commenced laying of the alternative network for Defence Forces.

Benefits of Technological Evolution

2846. SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has any proposal to utilise the benefits of technological evolution in 2G/3G/Wimax and other third generation technologies as reported in *The Times of India* dated July 13, 2007;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to become operational?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) BSNL has now placed an Advance Purchase Order (APO) for 2G GSM equipment against new 2G/3G combo tender on the successful bidder.

Single Market for Farmers

2847. SHRI CHENGARA SURENDRAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has finalized a proposal for setting up single markets for agricultural products and creating Indian Trade Organization to ensure remunerative prices and protect the interest of the farmers as suggested by Dr. M.S. Swaminathan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) The recommendations of National Commission

on Farmers relating to Indian single market and Indian Trade Organization are under active consideration of Government.

[*Translation*]

Role of Women In Agriculture

2848. SHRI RAGHUVVEER SINGH KOSHAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has conducted any programme/policy/research/discussions to strengthen the role of women in Agriculture Sector and to increase quality and efficiency therein;

(b) if so, the details and outcome thereof;

(c) whether the State Governments have also made similar efforts in the States;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the assistance provided for the purpose so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. The following major programmes provide that 30% of budget allocation be earmarked for women beneficiaries:

(i) 'National Horticulture Mission and Technology Mission for Horticulture in North Eastern States, Sikkim, Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttaranchal', and

(ii) 'Support to State Extension Programmes for Extension Reforms'.

The above schemes are being implemented through State implementing agencies.

The Department of Agriculture and Cooperation has also commissioned following studies to promote strengthening of role of women in agriculture:

(i) Review and analysis of existing schemes/programmes of Department of Agriculture & Cooperation with regard to incidence of benefits and cost of delivery of services for women in agriculture sector;

- (ii) Development of participatory material production and documentation of success stories of women farmers;
- (iii) Evaluation and impact assessment of Central Sector Scheme of Women in Agriculture;
- (iv) An Analytical study on existing state policies, programmes, intervention and processes and their impact on women's access to land; and
- (v) Development of gender sensitization modules for programme implementers at district, subdivision and cutting edge levels. These studies are at different stages of implementation.

Monitoring of Quality Standards of Steel Products

2849. SHRI KULDEEP BISHNOI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to assign monitoring of quality standards of certain steel products to the State Governments instead of the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS); and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor alongwith the guidelines issued to the State Governments to ensure strict adherence of the quality standards for the steel products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Investment in Telecom Sector

2850. SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of investment that has been made into country in Telecom Sector during the last three years; till date;

(b) whether there is any proposal to allow the investment from the other countries also; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) The total Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) into Country in Telecom Sector during the last three years are as under:

Year	Investment (Rs. in crore)
2004	608.78
2005	963.91
2006	4354.11
2007 (till March)	137.34

(b) and (c) Investment from all the countries except countries of concern and/or unfriendly entities are allowed as per Foreign Direct Investment Policy of the Government.

Dhekia Production

2851. SHRI M.K. SUBBA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the fern Dhekia (*Diplazium Esculentum*) which grows abundantly in the Northeastern Region contains high amount of crude protein next only to Soyabean as shown by the research conducted at the Guwahati University;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to promote its cultivation and consumption in the country;

(c) whether any assistance from the Union Government has been sought for this purpose; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) As per the research conducted by Guwahati University, the tender Dhekia leaves possess 33.27 per cent protein. Soybean contains around 43.2% protein in seeds.

(b) to (d) Indian Council of Agricultural Research has no mandate for research on this fern.

Auditing of National Dairy Development Board

2852. SHRI PRATIK P. PATIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the accounts of National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) are audited by Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) or any other Government Agency;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has received any complaints regarding misuse of public money by National Dairy Development Board (NDDB);

(d) if so, the facts in this regard;

(e) whether the Government is considering to conduct high level enquiry into the functioning of NDDB; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) and (b) No, Sir. As per NDDB Act, the accounts of the National Dairy Development Board are audited by auditors duly qualified to act as auditors of companies under the Companies Act. The appointment of auditors is approved by the Government on the recommendation of the NDDB Board.

(c) and (d) No specific complaints regarding misuse of public money has been received. However, some complaints regarding land allotment to Mother Dairy, allegations regarding diverting of funds to general reserve, formation of subsidiary companies and other allegations about functioning of NDDB as at enclosed statement have been received in the past and were looked into from time to time.

(e) and (f) No, Sir. No such proposal is under consideration. However, some of the complaints referred at enclosed statement are being handled by CBI/CVC and Ministry of Finance for which Department's input has gone.

Statement

Details of Complaints Against NDDB

1. Complaint from Shri Lalmani Prasad, MP(LS) addressed to CBI and CVC alleging land scam in respect of land given to Mother Dairy, Delhi.
2. Complaints from Shri Mahendra Singh, Ex. MP(LS) making various allegations including diversion of funds meant for development of oilseeds growers to general reserve.
3. Complaints from Dr. V. Kurien, Ex. Chairman, NDDB regarding formation of subsidiary companies by NDDB and other issues through PMO.
4. Complaints from Dr. V. Kurien, Ex. Chairman, NDDB making various allegations including formation of subsidiaries, transfer of funds raised for promotion for dairy, oilseeds and other cooperative to general reserve of NDDB and further investment in its subsidiary etc.
5. Complaints from Dr. V. Kurien, Ex. Chairman, NDDB regarding functioning of NDDB through PMO and Ministry of Finance.
6. Letter addressed by Dr. Kurien to Hon'ble PM received through PMO regarding the affairs of NDDB.

Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers

2853. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:
SHRI SUGRIB SINGH:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Limited (GRS&E.Ltd.) has decided to build two pontoons during 2002;

(b) if so, the details thereof and reasons for constructing pontoons;

(c) the details of expenditure incurred thereon;

(d) whether the Government has completed construction of such pontoons;

(e) if so, the details of the revenue earned by the Government therefrom so far;

(f) whether after completion of such pontoons, the GRS&E Ltd. has hired Kolkata Port Trust (KPT) dock; and

(g) if so, the details thereof and the details of the hiring charges paid by the company to Kolkata Port Trust?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) GRSE has been undertaking refits of Navy and Coast Guard Vessels over the years and has established expertise and competitiveness in the field of ship repair. Since GRSE had received order for building 3 Ships of the LST(L) Type and was also expecting orders for building four Anti-Submarine Warfare Corvettes, the availability of Building Berth and Dry Dock for repair of certain types of ship would have been limited. It was, therefore, proposed to build two 51M x 18M x 2M pontoons to address this constraint.

(c) Only one pontoon has been built and the Company spent Rs. 324.79 lakhs on it.

(d) Completed the building of one pontoon in February, 2004.

(e) Building of pontoon was not for a direct revenue earning but for using as an alternate arrangement of dry dock facility.

(f) Yes, Sir.

(g) The details of dock hiring charges paid by the Company to Kolkata Port Trust:-

INS Betwa	Rs. 64.78 Lakhs
INS Karmuk	Rs. 20.02 Lakhs
CGS Veera	Rs. 45.30 Lakhs
INS Beas	Rs. 38.03 Lakhs
INS Shardul	Rs. 27.89 Lakhs
INS Airavat	Rs. 03.54 Lakhs
CGS Vajra	Rs. 21.22 Lakhs
CGS Vighraha	Rs. 28.89 Lakhs
Total	Rs. 249.67 Lakhs

Procurement of Sukhoi Aircraft

2854. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY:

DR. RAJESH MISHRA:

SHRI SAJJAN KUMAR:

SHRI CHANDRA MANI TRIPATHI:

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY:

SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA:

SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA:

SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID:

SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA:

SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:

SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Russian defence manufacturing company has refused to supply defence equipment at old rates keeping in view the decreasing value of U.S. dollar;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Russian Government has given indications regarding reconsideration of defence agreements signed with India;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government would have to pay crores of dollars more for Sukhoi jet, Gorshkov and other aircrafts, if the said agreements are reconsidered;

(f) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard;

(g) whether talks have recently been held between army officers of India and Russia to resolve differences regarding sale of hi-tech weapons; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY):

(a) to (h) A Protocol signed by the Indian side and the Russian side in April 2002 in pursuance of General Contract dated 28th December 2000 for licence production of 140 SU-30 MKI aircraft by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited, had determined a net annual escalation rate of 2.55% valid till 2007. Discussion between the two sides to decide the annual escalation rate for the years 2008 to 2012 are in progress. The amounts payable for defence equipment procured from Russian suppliers may increase in case the escalation rate is raised.

Manuscript in History Division of MoD

2855. SHRI SUBRATA BOSE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the manuscript of "The History of Azad Hind Fauz (Indian National Army)" written by eminent Historian Late Dr. Praful Chandra Gupta at the behest of the Government of India is presently in the custody of the History Division of the Ministry of Defence;

(b) if so, whether the said manuscript is open for consultation by any person interested in it;

(c) whether the Government proposes to publish the manuscript to make the book easily available to scholars and readers; and

(d) if so, the time by which it is likely to be published?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) There is no such proposal before the Government.

(d) Does not arise in view of reply at (c) above.

Differential Interest Rate on EPF

2856. SHRIMATI KALPNA RAMESH NARHIRE:
SHRI TUKARAM GANGADHAR GADAKH:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to offer differential rates of interest on Employees Provident Fund (EPF) to workers with different EPF deposits;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of National Labour Unions thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

Advanced Light Helicopter

2857. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of Advanced Light Helicopters (ALHs) are being frequently grounded because of paucity of spares and serviceability problems;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to meet the requirements of spares and serviceability problems;

(c) the time of induction of Advanced Light Helicopter into the Armed Forces; and

(d) the details of the ALH production programme and targets thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY):

(a) and (b) The Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH) is the first attempt at indigenous production. Teething problems occurred in the initial stages.

The serviceability of ALH has shown improvement over a period of time with extensive product support provided by M/s. Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) in the areas of supply of spares, tools & other equipment and also technical & logistics support at operational bases. In order to support the ALH in a full integrated manner, HAL has set up a new division for maintenance and overhaul of all critical systems including engines, avionics, transmission system etc. fitted on ALH.

(c) The ALH was inducted in the Armed Forces in 2001-2002.

(d) A total of 61 ALHs have been produced so far. Production programme is in accordance with the requirement of the Armed Forces.

HIV/AIDS Awareness Programme

2858. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has launched an HIV/AIDS Awareness drive, under which the wives of Armed Forces Personnel are to be enrolled to create and spread awareness against the disease; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY):
(a) and (b) The Armed Forces Medical Services have a vibrant HIV/AIDS control programme in which wives of Armed Forces personnel play a significant role. Wives of service personnel who are involved on voluntary basis, play the role of peer educators for the Armed Forces families to educate and motivate them to adopt healthy life styles and take precautions against HIV/AIDS.

Identity Card to Beedi Workers

2859. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE:
SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has launched a scheme for issuing identity cards to all beedi workers in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of beedi workers who have been issued identity cards during each of the last three years, State-wise; and

(d) the time by which all eligible beedi workers are likely to be issued identity cards?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) and (b) Identity cards are issued to beedi workers by the Medical Officers of the Labour Welfare Organisation. However, the State Governments have also been requested to conduct survey in order to identify and issue identity cards to the genuine beedi workers in their States. Bihar, Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh, Tripura and Assam have taken initiatives for conducting survey and issued of identity cards to the beedi workers. The State of Rajasthan has already completed the task of identification of genuine beedi workers in the year 2005.

(c) A statement is enclosed.

(d) Issue of identity cards to beedi workers is an ongoing process.

Statement

State-wise Details of the Number of Beedi Workers Who Have Been Issued Identity Cards During the Last Three Years

Sl. No.	Name of the State	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	23418	24619	4507
2.	Assam	34	201	207
3.	Bihar	24327	30506	28582
4.	Jharkhand	7421	2225	25991
5.	Gujarat	1125	443	382
6.	Karnataka	11315	12415	6001
7.	Kerala	4127	2769	3018
8.	Madhya Pradesh	59739	33937	—
9.	Chhattisgarh	—	—	—
10.	Maharashtra	4359	5674	8269
11.	Orissa	3414	771	503
12.	Rajasthan	32918	1136	485

1	2	3	4	5
13.	Tripura	189	404	408
14.	Tamilnadu	19623	22640	23087
15.	Uttar Pradesh	25876	26425	24833
16.	West Bengal	7636	16381	173973
Total		225521	180546	300246

Insurance Schemes for Fishermen

2860. ADV. SURESH KURUP:

DR. K.S. MANOJ:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Kerala has submitted a proposal seeking central assistance for initiating an insurance coverage for fishing implements of traditional fishermen; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposal is for seeking Central assistance for insurance coverage for fishing implements of traditional fishermen who in many cases lose their fishing vessels, engines and nets while fishing at sea due to bad weather conditions and other natural calamities.

There is no Scheme for providing Central assistance for insurance coverage of fishing implements.

Assistance from Sugar Development Fund

2861. SHRI NARAHARI MAHATO: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals received for availing financial assistance from the Sugar Development Fund for expansion and modernisation of the sugar mills during each of the last three years and thereafter till date, State-wise;

(b) the number of the sugar mills provided assistance from the fund during the said period;

(c) whether these sugar mills have fully utilised the said assistance;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken to ensure proper utilisation of the financial assistance by the sugar mills?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) Statement-I indicating the number of proposals received for availing financial assistance from Sugar Development Fund (SDF) for expansion and modernisation is enclosed.

(b) Statement-II indicating the number of sugar mills provided the assistance is enclosed.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Except few cases where disbursements of the loans have been made only recently.

(e) There is already a system in place to monitor utilization of the financial assistance for expansion and modernisation provided to the sugar mills from Sugar Development Fund (SDF). Industrial Finance Corporation of India (IFCI) and National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) have been appointed Monitoring Agencies on behalf of the Government to oversee and monitor proper utilisation of the loan and implementation of the project. Second instalment, and the balance loan, if any, is disbursed only on submission of utilisation certificate towards proper utilisation of the earlier instalment. The monitoring agencies submit utilisation certificates as per General Financial Rules after necessary checks like site inspection, verifying books of accounts of sugar factory/Chartered Accountant's Certificate etc.

Statement I

State-wise number of proposals received for availing financial assistance from Sugar Development Fund for expansion and modernisation during the last three years and current year till date

States	No. of proposals received
Year 2004-05	
Uttar Pradesh	2
Andhra Pradesh	1
Maharashtra	1
Karnataka	1
Year 2005-06	
Uttar Pradesh	5
Uttarakhand	1
Tamil Nadu	3
Karnataka	3
Andhra Pradesh	1
Year 2006-07	
Uttar Pradesh	10
Bihar	3
Tamil Nadu	1
Maharashtra	2
Madhya Pradesh	1
Karnataka	1
Year 2007-08	
Maharashtra	1
Andhra Pradesh	3
Tamil Nadu	3

Statement II

State-wise number of sugar mills provided assistance from SDF for expansion and modernization during the last three years and current year till date:

States	No. of Sugar Mills
1	2
Year 2004-05	
Uttar Pradesh	2
Maharashtra	2

1	2
Uttarakhand	1
Karnataka	3
Year 2005-06	
Uttar Pradesh	2
Maharashtra	1
Andhra Pradesh	1
Year 2006-07	
Uttar Pradesh	5
Bihar	1
Tamil Nadu	2
Andhra Pradesh	1
Year 2007-08	
Bihar	1
Tamil Nadu	1

[Translation]

Flood Control

2862. SHRI SRICHAND KRIPLANI:
 SHRI ANANT GUDHE:
 SHRIMATI MINATI SEN:
 SHRI HEMMAL MURMU:
 SHRIMATI KALPNA RAMESH NARHIRE:
 SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE:
 DR. M. JAGANNATH:
 SHRI SUNIL KHAN:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether large parts of the country were submerged due to unprecedented floods during the current monsoon season;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the extent of damages caused and the number of people affected therefrom, State-wise;

(c) whether any survey/assessment was conducted in the areas chronically affected by the flood;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof;

(e) whether the Government has set up National Flood Control Board and the prevailing flood control schemes have been reviewed;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) the funds allocated to the affected States during the last three years and current year, State-wise;

(h) the plan outlay earmarked for flood control in the Eleventh Plan; and

(i) the effective steps being taken to check the recurrent floods and ensure gainful utilization of the excess water?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) During monsoon-2007, floods occurred in many parts of the country affecting more than 4.32 crore population in the States namely, Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and Pondicherry. However, unprecedented floods have been experienced in Subernrekha river in Orissa,

Jiabharali and Puthimari rivers in Assam and Ghaghara river in Uttar Pradesh where the rivers crossed the highest observed flood levels in the past. As per the report received from the State Revenue Authorities and the Ministry of Home Affairs, the total damages during monsoon-2007 have been assessed as Rs. 7325.88 crore. The details of State-wise damages caused and people affected are given in the enclosed statement-I.

(c) and (d) Ministry of Home Affairs have deputed central teams for assessment of flood situation and damages in the flood affected States.

(e) No Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

(g) Flood Management being State subject, the flood control schemes are planned, investigated and implemented by the State Governments with their own funds. The assistance rendered by the Central Government is technical, catalytical and promotional in nature. However, the Central Government has been providing financial assistance to the flood affected States under various plan schemes in order to enable them to take up flood management works in critical areas. The details of central assistance released by the Government of India to various State Governments for taking up flood control measures at critical areas during the last three years are given in the enclosed statement-II.

(h) The plan outlay for XI Plan has not yet been intimated by the Planning Commission.

(i) The Government of India has set up Ganga Flood Control Commission (GFCC); which has prepared comprehensive master plans for flood control measures in Ganga basin States. The Government of India has also set up Brahmaputra Board by an Act of Parliament; which has prepared comprehensive master plans for flood control in Brahmaputra and Barak Valley. Besides, the Government of India also constituted various Committees from time to time to examine the causes of recurring floods in various parts of the country and to suggest remedial measures to mitigate this problem.

As per the direction of Hon'ble Prime Minister, a Task Force on Flood Management/Erosion Control was set up in August, 2004 to look into the problem of recurring floods in Assam & neighbouring States as well as Bihar, West Bengal and Eastern Uttar Pradesh. The Task Force submitted its report in December, 2004 and recommended various measures for flood management.

The Government of India is also having continuous dialogue with the Government of Nepal for construction of large storage dams/schemes in Nepal on rivers flowing from Nepal as a long term solution to flood mitigation.

Statement I**Details of State-wise Damages Due to Floods—2007 (As on 27-8-2007)**

Sl. No.	Name of State(s)	Population affected (in lakh)	No. of human lives lost	No. of districts affected	No. of villages affected	No. of Live-stock lost	Cropped area affected (in ha.)	No. of houses damaged		Total (Rs. in lakh)
								Fully	Partially	
1.	Andhra Pradesh	9.59	57	11	47	47172	56000	13624	188796	1329.97
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	N.R.	N.R.	11	07	N.R.	N.R.	16	N.R.	6.00
3.	Assam	68.16	42	26	5988	N.R.	360000	12283	N.R.	N.R.
4.	Bihar	203.30	495	20	9884	555	1588000	156378	245528	177316
5.	Chhattisgarh	1.96	13	08	164	54	2560	1325	11132	2386.74
6.	Goa	0.003	02	Nil	Nil	Nil	Neg	05	444	102.90
7.	Gujarat	14.87	378	29	937	9707	468342	3700	37979	15303.25
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1.23	52	09	984	707	1630	1022	2003	119079.98
9.	Jharkhand	Nil	N.R.	02	N.R.	02	962	295	681	104.85
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
11.	Karnataka	11.29	148	25	1412	3451	198634	37032	28882	113943.61
12.	Kerala	17.66	239	14	1504	2811	35106	2010	48913	70353.34
13.	Madhya Pradesh	1.87	69	15	710	294	4239	1459	16390	893.70
14.	Maharashtra	1.35	115	N.R.	5297	1477	N.R.	5778	41267	N.R.
15.	Meghalaya	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	90	Nil	Nil	Nil
16.	Orissa	15.96	33	12	1865	19501	160000	9353	18457	25493.71
17.	Punjab	0.015	07	06	246	18	28134	540	N.R.	N.R.
18.	Rajasthan	2.77	51	11	1294	503	Neg	730	7502	25150.96
19.	Tripura	Nil	08	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	03	Nil	Nil
20.	Tamilnadu	Nil	29	Nil	Nil	129	Nil	89	573	375.50
21.	Uttar Pradesh	12.43	216	22	2546	157	162566	300	1136	172879.86
22.	Uttarakhand	N.R.	46	N.R.	N.R.	149	N.R.	102	446	N.R.
23.	West Bengal	69.60	215	04	3837	4033	2213150	152273	244681	7863.53
24.	Pondicherry	0.003	02	02	N.R.	Nil	Neg	3	59	3.87
Total		432.061	2217	227	36722	90720	5279413	398320	894879	732587.87

Source: MHA Report on Damages dated 27.8.2007.

Statement II*Details of Funds Released to States During X Plan Period (2004-07) in Respect of Flood Control Schemes*

S.No.	Name of Scheme/State	Funds released during X plan (2004-07)			
		2004-05	2005-06	2005-07	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
A. Critical Anti-Erosion Works in Ganga basin States					
1.	Bihar	19.41	22.33	20.59	62.33
2.	Himachal Pradesh	1.00	1.32	1.34	3.66
3.	Jharkhand	0.00	1.50	2.80	4.30
4.	Uttar Pradesh	12.58	10.94	3.47	26.99
5.	Uttaranchal	1.00	1.77	1.18	3.95
6.	West Bengal	15.00	14.83	11.74	41.57
	(including Farakka Barrage Project)	+8.14	+33.00	+34.75	+75.89
	Total	57.13	85.69	75.87	218.69
B. Critical Flood Control/Anti-Erosion Works in Brahmaputra & Barak Valley States					
1.	Assam	9.30	30.24	39.28	78.82
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	4.00	12.38	16.38
3.	Manipur	0.00	2.11	5.80	7.91
4.	Mizoram	0.60	2.16	3.44	6.20
5.	Sikkim	0.00	2.16	6.43	8.59
6.	Tripura	1.50	4.44	6.82	12.76
7.	Nagaland	0.00	1.20	2.70	3.90
8.	Meghalaya	0.00	0.67	1.96	2.63
9.	West Bengal	0.00	2.03	6.98	9.01
	Total	11.40	49.01	85.79	146.20
C. Improvement of Drainage in Critical Areas of the Country					
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1.50	3.00	0.95	5.45
2.	Bihar	5.00	7.00	5.98	17.98
3.	Orissa	1.50	3.25	3.48	8.23
4.	Uttar Pradesh	1.50	0.00	0.00	1.50
5.	Jammu and Kashmir	0.00	0.00	2.50	2.50
	Total	9.50	13.25	12.91	35.66

1	2	3	4	5	6
D. Critical Anti-Erosion works in Coastal and other than Ganga Basin States					
1.	Jammu and Kashmir	0.00	0.00	15.50	15.50
	Total	0.00	0.00	15.50	15.50
E. Special Erosion Control Measures on rivers Sutlej and Ravi					
1.	Punjab	1.50	1.60	1.60	4.70
	Total	1.50	1.60	1.60	4.70

Tower Erection Work by BSNL

2863. SHRI HARIBHAU JAWALE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the BSNL has started tower erection and commissioning work for providing mobile service in the country especially in the rural areas of Jalgaon district in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the said work is progressing at a very slow pace;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the remedial steps taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. BSNL has planned for erection of 37 numbers of towers in rural areas of Jalgaon district in Maharashtra State for providing Mobile services. The work for erection of 13 numbers of towers has already been started.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise in view of (c) above.

Pen Ganga Project

2864. SHRIMATI RUPATAI D. PATIL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra has resubmitted the lower Pen Ganga Project after removing its flaws;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government has forwarded the said proposals to the Central Water Commission (CWC); and

(c) the time by which the Central Water Commission is likely to accord its in principle sanction to the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) The Lower Pen Ganga Project was earlier received in Central Water Commission (CWC) in August 1982. This project was sent back to project authorities in July 1987 due to non compliance of observations of CWC. Subsequently, the Government of Maharashtra submitted a fresh preliminary report on the project to CWC in November 2006. This preliminary report was examined in CWC and the comments on various aspects were sent to the project authorities in March 2007 for compliance, which is still awaited from the State Government of Maharashtra.

[English]

General Body Elections of Kendriya Bhandar

2865. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA:
SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the elections to the general body/ delegates of the Central Government Employees Consumer Co-operative Society Ltd. (Kendriya Bhandar) were held after a gap of eight years;

(b) if so, the details of the statutory position regarding the period of holding elections;

(c) the reasons for delay in holding these elections beyond the stipulated period; and

(d) the persons held responsible for the lapse alongwith the action taken against guilty person and the Board of Directors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act, 2002 provides for term of office of the elected members of the board and not delegates of a General Body of a Multi State Cooperative Society.

(c) The election of the delegates of the representative general body of a multi-State cooperative society is the responsibility of the Board of Directors of the Society. Vide amended bye-law No. 14 as approved by the general body, and registered on 9th May, 2003, the term of the delegates to the general body of Kendriya Bhandar was fixed for a period of 5 years. In the meantime, there was a dispute regarding membership of the Kendriya Bhandar agitated vide writ petition No. 8983-84 of 2005 before the Delhi High Court. On the direction of the High Court of Delhi in the above writ petition, the Central Registrar decided the matter of membership vide order dated 8th December, 2006. The election to the delegates of general body has since been held in February, 2007. Further Returning Officer is the competent authority to decide the issue of disqualification of the candidates under the provision of the Multi State Cooperative Societies Act, 2002 if election is not conducted in time. Also infirmity regarding conduct of election can be agitated as an election dispute under section 84(2)(c) of the Act.

(d) Does not arise.

Response to Sugar Development Fund

2866. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Sugar Development Fund (SDF) created for modernization expansion of sugar factories have received a poor response from the industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor;

(c) the steps taken to make this fund more popular and acceptable in the industry;

(d) whether the Government has urged the sugar industry to improve the quality of sugar to make it competitive in international market; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and reaction of the sugar industry thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The loans from the Sugar Development Fund (SDF) are given to eligible sugar mills for expansion of capacity, modernization/rehabilitation of plant and machinery as well as technological upgradation. In order to make this fund more popular and acceptable to sugar factories, the Government amended the SDF Rules in 2002 for better utilization of the important by-products by deciding to give loan from SDF for production of ethanol and bagasse based cogeneration of power. The Government has reduced the rate of interest on loans from this fund to two percent below the "Bank Rate" with effect from 21.10.2004 which effectively comes to 4%. The sugar mills have also been made eligible for loans under this Fund for expansion of capacity upto 10,000 tcd. Further, in 2006, SDF loan component has been increased upto 40% instead of 30% of the eligible project cost for bagasse based cogeneration projects. In order to further encourage mills to take loans from SDF, the Government has decided recently to allow mills to give security in the form of a charge on the assets for loans for cane development and production of ethanol also.

(d) and (e) The Central Government advises the sugar industry from time to time at different fora to improve the quality of sugar through modernisation and technological upgradation/research by availing concessional loan/grant-in-aid from Sugar Development Fund, to produce quality sugar acceptable in the international market. The sugar factories have been approaching the Central Government for sanction of SDF loans regularly for modernisation and technology upgradation.

Fishery Training Institutes

2867. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government proposes to establish Fishery Training Institutes in Andhra Pradesh and other States;

(b) if so, the details and locations thereof, State-wise;

(c) the time by which these are likely to be started;

(d) the total cost likely to be incurred on these institutes; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to promote fishery sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

(e) The Government of India through various Centrally Sponsored and Central Sector Schemes provides financial assistance to the State Governments and Union Territories for development of fisheries. The schemes implemented by the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture are broadly comprised of namely (i) Development of Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture, (ii) Development of Marine Fisheries, Infrastructure and Post Harvest Operations, (iii) National Scheme of Welfare of Fishermen, Training and Extension, (iv) Strengthening of Database and Information Networking and (v) Assistance to the fisheries based Institutes of the Department. In addition to these schemes, the Coastal Aquaculture Authority Act 2005 also enacted in 2005 to streamline the process of setting up of Coastal aquaculture farms and National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB) has been set up in September, 2006 with its headquarter at Hyderabad to realize the untapped potential of fisheries sector in inland and marine fish capture, culture, processing & marketing of fish, and overall growth of fisheries sector.

*[Translation]***Rajiv Sagar Project**

2868. SHRI GANESH SINGH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Rajiv Sagar (Bawanthadi) project is a joint project between Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra;

(b) if so, whether the work on the project is being hampered due to delay in clearance of cases pertaining to acquisition of forest land in Maharashtra and delay in providing the amount of its share by the Maharashtra Government;

(c) whether the Government proposes to take any action to ensure early completion of the said project under the Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme; and

(d) if so, the time by which the said project is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes sir,

(b) The revised forest proposal of Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra area has been submitted to the Government of India, Ministry of Environment & Forests, New Delhi by the concerned Conservator of Forests on 8th October 2006 and 11th August 2006 respectively. The Conservator of Forests (Central) Bhopal has inspected the site and submitted the site report to the Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India. Government of Madhya Pradesh has informed that Maharashtra State has already paid their share cost to the Government of Madhya Pradesh and at present, there is no hindrance in project work due to this.

(c) The Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra portions of the project has been included in AIBP in 2003-04 and 2004-05 respectively and central assistance is being provided to these States as per the guidelines of the programme in force from time to time on the basis of proposals received from respective State Governments and AIBP ceiling for the State fixed by the Planning Commission on year to year basis.

(d) As per Memorandum of Understanding signed between Government of Maharashtra with the Ministry of

Water Resources, the project components of Maharashtra included in AIBP are proposed for completion by March 2008 by State Government of Maharashtra. The Government of Madhya Pradesh has informed that dam is proposed for completion by June 2008 and canal system of Madhya Pradesh by March 2009 by the State Government of Madhya Pradesh.

Computerisation of Consumer Courts

2869. SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is contemplating to computerize all the consumer courts in the country and make them online for making them more effective; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The scheme of "Computerization and Computer Networking of Consumer Fora in the country" (CONFONET) is under implementation which would enable the Consumer Fora to access information faster leading to quicker disposal. Under the scheme, all the three tier consumer disputes redressal agencies, namely the District Fora, State Commissions and the National Commission would be fully computerized. Further, they would also be connected through network for exchange of information among the Consumer Fora & consumers. Training and technical support is being provided for smooth implementation of the scheme.

Uniform STD Call Rate

2870. SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE:
SHRI HEMMAL MURMU:
SHRIMATI BHAVANA PUNDALIKRAO GAWALI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ISD/STD call rates has been decreased recently by the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total annual loss to the BSNL/MTNL due to such decrease of call rates;

(d) whether the services given to the customers are being curtailed due to such decrease in call rates and more connections are being provided by these mobile operators against existing capacity;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) the steps being taken by the Government to provide better network to the mobile/cellular customers;

(g) whether the Government proposes to uniform S.T.D. call rate for basic telephone line in the country;

(h) if so, the details thereof;

(i) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(j) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) No, Sir. The STD/ISD call rates have not been decreased recently by Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL).

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

(d) and (e) No, Sir. The services to the customers are not curtailed, as on 30.6.2007, BSNL provided 28.42 million Global System for Mobile (GSM) connections against the radio capacity of 28.24 million while MTNL provided 2.6 million GSM connections against the radio capacity of 2.3 million. However, the network performance depends on the actual usage by the subscribers at any given point of time. Presently, the service is working satisfactorily and is, in general, meeting the Quality of Service (QoS) parameters prescribed by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI).

(f) The GSM based cellular mobile network is continuously optimized for its performance and monitoring of the network has been strengthened to ensure performance as per the QoS parameters prescribed by TRAI. The said network is also progressively augmented to enhance the capacity, coverage and QoS.

(g) There is no proposal at present for uniform STD call rate for basic service telephones in the country.

(h) Does not arise in view of (g) above.

(i) Tariff of telecom service in the country are governed by the framework laid down in the Telecommunication Tariff Order (TTO), 1999 as amended from time to time. As per the existing provisions of TTO tariff of telecom services are under forbearance except with regard to fixed line service in rural area, national roaming service in cellular mobile service and leased line service. Service providers are free to offer any tariff suiting to the requirements of the customers.

(j) Does not arise in view of (i) above.

Sale of Weapons to Foreign Countries

2871. SHRI SUBHASH SURESHCHANDRA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to sell arms and weapons, warships and aircraft to foreign countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of countries from which proposals for such purchases have been received so far; and

(d) the decision taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) Encouraging exports of defence products is an on-going exercise and Defence Public Sector Undertakings and Ordnance Factory Board are engaged in sale of defence products to countries like Nepal, Sri Lanka, Bhutan etc. The Government, through Defence Public Sector Undertakings & Ordnance Factory Board, has exported defence products amounting to Rs. 428.84 crores during the year 2006-2007.

(c) and (d) During 2005-2007, proposals for possible purchase of defence products have been received from various countries like Indonesia, Chile, Nepal, Malaysia, Thailand, Vietnam, Israel, Algeria, Botswana, Kenya, Belgium, Cyprus, Turkey, Suriname etc. and these are examined and orders executed in consultation with the Defence Public Sector Undertakings and Ordnance Factory Board and Ministry of External Affairs.

[English]

Defective Equipment

2872. SHRI PRABODH PANDA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether large portions of equipment imported from abroad have been found to be defective;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it has been discussed in a meeting held on 18th May 2007 that significant consignments of arms, which have been imported in recent months, were defective; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government against the suppliers?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A. K. ANTONY): (a) and (b) Necessary provisions are included in the contracts to ensure that the defence equipment are in a defect free state when deliveries are taken. There are safeguards in the contracts against subsequent defects/failures.

(c) There was a reference to this issue in the meeting.

(d) Conditions and terms of contract are invoked whenever defects are found.

Weather Forecast

2873. SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the status of advance weather forecasting in the country;

(b) the manner in which it is beneficial for the farmers in protecting their crops from natural calamities like floods and droughts; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to create awareness of weather forecasting among farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Advance weather forecasting is provided in different

temporal and spatial ranges and is issued by India Meteorological Department (IMD) and National Centre for Medium Range Weather Forecast (NCMRWF), Ministry of Earth Sciences. Details of rainfall predictions that are important for agriculture are given below:

- (i) Short range rainfall predictions, upto 3 days, are generated daily for all 36 Meteorological sub-divisions in the country.
- (ii) Medium range rainfall predictions (3-7 days) are generated for the whole country.
- (iii) Long range rainfall forecast for the southwest monsoon season (June-September) for the country as a whole and also for 4 homogeneous regions. The forecast is issued in 2 stages, first in April with the data up to March and the second by end of June with the data up to May.

(b) Specific weather information helps farmers to optimize agricultural practices including input use, irrigation management and crop/animal protection from adverse weather events etc. In order to meet needs of the farming community, IMD is rendering Agro-Meteorological Advisory Service (AAS) in the country and provides weather-based agro-advisories to assist farmers to take decisions in tune with prevailing and prognosticated weather conditions.

(c) Advisory bulletins prepared are disseminated by different modes of mass communication. The bulletins are broadcasted by the All India Radio and telecasted by Doordarshan. The salient features of advisory bulletins are published in the local newspapers. The bulletins are also kept on different web pages of IMD/NCMRWF/Universities for access by the user community. To create awareness about the service, interactions are organized with farming community through farmers' meets and kisan mela. Also, radio/TV talks are given by the scientists, and popular articles are published in print media.

[*Translation*]

Policy to Check Brain-drain

2874. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has taken or proposes to take any step to formulate an appropriate and effective policy to check the constant brain-drain from different fields;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) and (b) The Union Government has taken several measures from time to time to minimize the outflow of professionals from various fields and also to attract Scientists and Technologists settled abroad to return to India. Some of these measures are:

- (i) Setting up of more centres of excellence/advanced studies in the universities and academic institutions.
 - (ii) Science and Technology based training for entrepreneurial development.
 - (iii) Invitation to distinguished men and women of Indian origin settled abroad for short term technical assignments to assist in frontier and emerging areas of Science and Technology.
 - (iv) Increasing the number and amount of fellowships for M.Tech. Programme as a result of which more students have started joining the M.Tech Programme.
 - (v) Early Faculty Induction Programme which aims at attracting bright and young undergraduate students in Engineering and Technology/Pharmacy/Architecture, etc. to take teaching as their career.
 - (vi) Appointment of NRIs and persons of Indian Origin in the permanent faculty positions in the IITs.
 - (vii) IITs have also established Innovation and Incubation Centres which encourage students to start their own enterprises after graduation.
 - (viii) Encouraging graduate students to continue work on sponsored research projects which have been funded by various agencies.
 - (ix) Conduct of counselling sessions for career options of students and taking necessary steps for recruitment of students in Indian industries and organizations registered in India.
- (c) Does not arise in view of (a) and (b) above.

*[English]***Inadequate Manpower in Sainik Boards**

2875. SHRI HARIBHAU RATHOD: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some of the Rajya Sainik Boards and Zila Sainik Boards do not have adequate manpower and accommodation facilities;

(b) if so, whether in spite of Central Government's direction in this regard some State Governments are not able to fill up the vacant posts in Rajya Sainik Boards and Zila Sainik Boards;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the status of Rajya Sainik Boards and Zila Sainik Boards of Maharashtra;

(e) the posts vacant in Rajya Sainik Boards and Zila Sainik Boards of Maharashtra and efforts to fill up the same; and

(f) the steps being taken to improve the conditions of Rajya Sainik and Zila Sainik Boards?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI M.M. PALLAM RAJU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) The details of posts in these Boards in various States/Union Territories including Maharashtra are given in the statement enclosed. The Government has requested the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations to fill up the vacant posts in these Boards expeditiously and their response has been positive.

(f) The Government has taken up with the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations important issues such as the provision of adequate infrastructure including accommodation and vehicles, computerization and connectivity with Kendriya Sainik Board and Directorate General of Resettlement, setting up of ESM Corporations and improvement in Grievance Redressal Mechanism at district level in cooperation with District authorities in respect of these Boards, and requested them to take urgent steps to address these issues.

Statement***Details of Posts in Rajya Sainik Boards and Zila Sainik Boards***

S.No.	State/UT	Strength of Rajya Sainik Boards						Strength of Zila Sainik Boards					
		Officers			Staff			Officers			Staff		
		Auth'd	Held	Vacant	Auth'd	held	Vacant	Auth'd	Held	Vacant	Auth'd	Held	Vacant
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4	3	1	34	26	8	23	14	9	158	135	23
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	1	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3.	Assam	4	3	1	26	11	15	10	1	9	63	37	26
4.	Bihar	2	2	0	16	8	8	9	9	0	87	38	49
5.	Chhattisgarh	2	2	0	14	10	4	8	6	2	61	41	20
6.	Delhi	3	1	2	14	11	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
7.	Goa	1	1	0	13	10	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
8.	Gujarat	2	1	1	17	16	1	5	4	1	35	30	5
9.	Haryana	4	4	0	47	42	5	19	4	15	427	321	106
10.	Himachal Pradesh	3	1	2	32	24	8	10	10	0	95	54	41
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	2	2	0	16	15	1	10	7	3	100	97	3

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
12.	Jharkhand	2	2	0	13	3	10	4	3	1	40	37	3
13.	Karnataka	3	2	1	19	12	7	11	5	6	96	59	37
14.	Kerala	6	4	2	35	24	11	24	16	8	114	93	21
15.	Madhya Pradesh	4	4	0	38	36	2	24	22	2	174	165	9
16.	Maharashtra	4	4	0	37	37	0	30	20	10	330	322	8
17.	Manipur	1	1	0	5	3	2	2	1	1	5	1	4
18.	Meghalaya	1	1	0	11	9	2	1	1	0	9	7	2
19.	Mizoram	2	2	0	23	23	0	2	2	0	15	14	1
20.	Nagaland	3	2	1	12	6	6	5	1	4	31	19	12
21.	Orissa	2	1	1	10	9	1	6	4	2	45	24	21
22.	Punjab	4	4	0	34	26	8	17	8	9	226	120	106
23.	Rajasthan	3	3	0	24	22	2	24	19	5	122	96	26
24.	Sikkim	2	1	1	16	9	7	3	3	0	7	7	0
25.	Tamilnadu	8	4	4	55	41	14	25	21	4	271	223	48
26.	Tripura	2	2	0	15	14	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
27.	Uttaranchal	3	2	1	23	8	15	14	13	1	220	66	154
28.	Uttar Pradesh	5	3	2	44	39	5	65	27	38	557	435	122
29.	West Bengal	3	1	2	24	21	3	12	8	4	128	94	34
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands (UT)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
31.	Chandigarh (UT)	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	9	9	0
32.	Pondicherry (UT)	1	1	0	7	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total		87	65	22	676	524	152	365	230	135	3425	2544	881
Total Staff Auth'd		4553											
Total Staff held		3363											
Total Posts vacant		1190											

*[Translation]***Target in WLL Tower**

2876. SHRI V.K. THUMMAR:

SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the target for installation of Wireless in Local Loop towers has not been achieved;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of the officials found guilty of delay in procurement of equipments during the last three years;

(d) the target fixed in this regard during the last three years;

(e) the extent to which the targets have been achieved; and

(f) the reaction of the Government on the achievements of the targets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (f) Sir, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) assigns target in terms of Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) switching capacity. Targets and achievements in terms of switching capacity and translated achievement in terms of WLL towers are as follows:

	2004-05		2005-06		2006-07	
	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement
WLL capacity	24,00,000	5,41,200	20,99,400	12,86,010	14,40,000	13,77,800
No. of Towers (BTS)	3,200	722	2,799	1,715	1,920	1,837

The achievement figures have been 23%, 61% and 96% in respect of the targets for 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 respectively.

The shortfall in BSNL's achievements against the targets is due to the following reasons:

- (i) Validation of the equipments took longer time than anticipated period due to new technology being introduced first time in BSNL network.
- (ii) Delay in supply and installation of equipments by the vendors.
- (iii) Non-acceptance of Advance Purchase Orders by the vendors during 2005-06.
- (iv) Difficulty in making the infrastructure ready in remote and rural areas.
- (v) The law and order problem in insurgency prone areas like J&K, North Eastern region, Chhattisgarh etc.

There was no delay in procurement during last three years due to fault of the official concerned.

As regards Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL), the PSU had planned CDMA - WLL network of 4 lakh lines each in Delhi and Mumbai in 2004-05. The network was commissioned in both the cities in February, 2006. However, achievement of commissioning of BTS has been 220 in Delhi and 199 in Mumbai against the target of 222 in each of the cities. Remaining two towers

in Delhi shall be commissioned by 31.12.2007 and 23 towers in Mumbai shall be commissioned by 31.3.08 progressively.

Delay in achievement of targets was because of delay in supply and commissioning of the network by the vendor.

[English]

Disbursal of Rural Credit and Micro Finance

2877. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Department of Posts has any proposal for disbursal of rural credit and micro finance in the country;

(b) if so, whether the Department of Posts has been offering extensive training programmes to carry out the procedure right from identification of customers to address verification for which the department earns Rs. 600-650 per customer; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Yes, Sir. Department of Posts along with NABARD has been disbursing rural credit in select post offices in Tamilnadu State through a pilot project.

(b) and (c) Department of Posts has been training its staff on operative procedures while NABARD has been

providing training on identification of Self Help Groups. Remuneration earned is as a percentage of the interest collected on the loan disbursed and not as a fixed sum.

Free Non-life Insurance by BSNL/MTNL

2878. SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the BSNL and MTNL proposes to provide free non-life insurance to all its subscribers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the BSNL and MTNL would incur losses in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details alongwith the amount thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) Sir, there is a proposal from BSNL to provide non-life insurance to its Fixed line and Postpaid cellular subscribers. MTNL has no such proposal at present.

(c) and (d) Do not arise in view of (a) and (b) above.

Impact of Climatic Change

2879. SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR:

PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:

SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK:

SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD: .

SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:

SHRI SUBHASH SURESHCHANDRA DESHMUKH:

SHRI JASUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the United Nations has cautioned the Government regarding threat to agriculture due to global warming as reported in *Mint*, dated August 9, 2007 under the caption 'Warming threatens farmlands in India, UN official cautions';

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether any assessment has been made by the Government regarding the likely impact of climate change on the foodgrain production in the country;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to deal with the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) *Mint* dated 9.8.2007 carries a report referring to a top United Nation's (UN) official statement about impact of climate change on Indian agriculture.

(b) Government gives highest priority to studying the impact of climate change and measures for its adaptation and mitigation.

(c) and (d) Preliminary simulation and experimental studies have indicated decline in foodgrain production due to climate change.

(e) Considering the possible impacts of climate change on Indian agriculture and economy, Indian Council of Agricultural Research has reoriented its research strategy and National Network Project on Impact, Adaptation and Vulnerability of Indian Agriculture to climate Change launched in 2004 with 15 research centers to quantify the sensitivity of crops, soils, water, fish and livestock to global climatic changes.

Growth in Outsourcing

2880. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian companies engaged in outsourcing markets are able to compete with the international companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of companies engaged in outsourcing market and the number of softwares exported alongwith the earnings made therefrom during the last three years, till date;

(c) whether the target fixed and achieved; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the steps taken by the Government to made available affordable computers at rural level and to the poor people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per Export Promotion Council for Software (ESC) it is estimated that there are around 5000 IT and ITES exporting companies in India.

As per NASSCOM (National Association of Software and Services Companies), India's export of computer

software and ITES/BPO in the last three years is as follows;

2004-05	: US \$ 17.7 Billion
2005-06	: US \$ 23.5 Billion
2006-07	: US \$ 31.3 Billion

(c) and (d) As per ESC the target for export of Computer Software/Services and ITES/BPO was fixed at Rs. 140000 crore (US\$ 31.11 billion) for the year 2006-07 and has been achieved.

The Government is facilitating the industry to make available Personal Computers (PCs) at affordable prices for the masses. Three companies have already launched PCs costing less than Rs. 10,000/- in the market. The report of the expert Committee on "PC Penetration; Internet and Domestic Software: set up by the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, has delineated a vision for India which encompasses to increase the pace of PC penetration by 2008 to the levels of 65 PCs per 1000 persons from the existing 18.5 PCs per 1000 persons.

[Translation]

Expansion of National Horticulture Mission

2881. SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA:
SHRI MANJUNATH KUNNUR:
SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the expansion list of National Horticulture Mission Phase-II has been issued;

(b) if so, the number of new districts of various States including Rajasthan and Karnataka which have been identified for the project;

(c) whether the geographical area, population is being taken as criteria for including new districts; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a)

and (b) The Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National Horticulture Mission (NHM) has been extended to another 69 districts in various States during 2007-08. While new districts have not been included in the State of Karnataka so far, 6 new districts have been included in Rajasthan.

(c) and (d) The existing area under horticultural crops, agro-climatic conditions and potential for cultivation of the horticulture crops in the particular district are the main criteria that is taken into account for inclusion of new districts under the scheme.

[English]

Watershed Development Programme

2882. SHRI M. SHIVANNA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state;

(a) whether the period of implementation of the World Bank aided Watershed Development Programme in Karnataka has been extended from April, 2007 to March, 2008; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Yes, the period of implementation of the World Bank aided Watershed Development Programme in Karnataka has been extended from April, 2007 to March, 2008.

(b) This World Bank aided Watershed Development Programme in Karnataka started on 10.9.2001 and it was to be terminated on 31.3.2007. The Government of Karnataka informed that some components of the project could not start as envisaged, in time, and it will require more time to complete the project. The project was reviewed at the Government of India level and the World Bank was requested to consider extension of the project. The Ministry of Finance, Department of Economic Affairs vide D.O. letter No.4/2/2000-FB. VII dated 9.4.2007, conveyed the approval of the World Bank for extension of the project from April, 2007 to March, 2008.

Increase in Supply of Sugar

2883. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether some States, particularly Gujarat have requested the Union Government to increase the supply of sugar to their States;

(b) if so, the details thereof and reaction of the Government thereto; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) and (b) In the recent past, the Government of Andhra Pradesh had requested to increase their monthly quota of levy sugar. However, the same was not acceded to. No request from the Government of Gujarat has been received in the recent past to increase the supply of levy sugar to them.

(c) Does not arise.

ECHS Facilities to Ex-servicemen

2884. SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has introduced the Ex-Servicemen Contributory Health Scheme (ECHS) in December, 2002;

(b) if so, whether an ECHS member possessing a valid Smart Card can avail of treatment at any ECHS Polyclinic in India;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether there are cases wherein treatment has been denied to a valid Smart Card holder at a town or clinic other than in the home town of the concerned person;

(e) if so, the details thereof and reasons for denial of treatment;

(f) whether the Government has carried out a review of the scheme; and

(g) if so, the details thereof and outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI M.M. PALLAM RAJU): (a) The Ex-

Servicemen Contributory Health Scheme was sanctioned in December, 2002 and was introduced with effect from 1st April, 2003.

(b) and (c) An ECHS member can avail treatment at any ECHS polyclinic in India. However the medicines are restricted to seven days on temporary visit to other stations. If a member requires treatment at other stations for longer duration, he needs to obtain a "temporary attachment certificate" from his parent polyclinic, which is valid for six months.

(d) No, Sir,

(e) Does not arise.

(f) and (g) Review of policies and procedures of the scheme is a continuous process. In the course of review, following reforms have been effected:-

(i) Exemption to war widows from payment of contribution;

(ii) Simplifying and revising the terms and conditions for contractual employment of medical/para-medical staff.

(iii) Provision of civil telephone with STD facility for smart card servers.

(iv) Entitlement of ECHS beneficiaries to general/semi-private/private ward facility in empanelled hospitals according to their rank structure.

(v) Exemption to war disabled pensioners from payment of contribution.

Livestock Health and Disease Control Scheme

2885. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has launched Centrally Sponsored Scheme Livestock Health and Disease Control across the country;

(b) if so, the details of the components of the scheme;

(c) the central assistance provided or being provided to each State under the scheme; and

(d) the steps taken by the Union Government for the effective implementation of said scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A centrally sponsored scheme called "Livestock Health and Disease Control (LH&DC)" is being implemented across the country since 2003-04. The scheme has the following four components:

- (i) Assistance to States for Control of Animal Diseases (ASCAD)
- (ii) National Project on Rinderpest (NPRED)

(iii) Professional Efficiency Development (PED)

(iv) Foot and Mouth Disease Control Programme (FMD-CP)

(c) The Central Assistance provided to each State under above four components during the last four years and during the current financial year is given in the enclosed statement-I to IV.

(d) For effective implementation of the scheme, the Action Plan for major component is approved for each State and monitored regularly by way of organizing meetings, visit of officers in different States and through video conferences.

Statement I

Central assistance provided under Assistance to States for Control of Animal Diseases (ASCAD)

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of State/ UT	Amount released during 2003-04	Amount released during 2004-05	Amount released during 2005-06	Amount released during 2006-07	Amount released 2007-08 till date
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	184.00	216.12	0.00	500.00	250.00
2.	Bihar	253.188	0.00	192.96	0.00	0.00
3.	Chhattisgarh	46.33	174.50	53.59	450.00	0.00
4.	Goa	8.00	24.33	15.28	30.22	25.00
5.	Gujarat	246.715	439.37	293.00	455.00	0.00
6.	Haryana	211.247	327.86	256.00	150.00	200.00
7.	Himachal Pradesh	67.16	75.60	8.30	103.64	75.00
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	74.55	203.20	200.00	200.00	200.00
9.	Jharkhand	141.58	6.37	50.00	0.00	0.00
10.	Karnataka	74.00	451.30	400.00	865.14	0.00
11.	Kerala	80.00	0.00	150.00	197.23	0.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	6.00	234.15	275.48	195.00	0.00
13.	Maharashtra	91.20	665.65	704.65	1035.00	500.00
14.	Orissa	210.25	330.06	229.00	270.00	400.00
15.	Punjab	32.00	156.05	0.00	369.97	0.00
16.	Rajasthan	87.57	204.42	267.04	257.00	250.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
17.	Tamilnadu	63.60	300.42	999.00	200.00	350.00
18.	Uttar Pradesh	414.15	263.33	1222.46	0.00	400.00
19.	Uttaranchal	11.06	124.71	103.465	157.80	100.00
20.	West Bengal	105.40	464.97	491.775	547.00	0.00
21.	Arunachal Pradesh	45.00	50.40	100.65	91.46	100.00
22.	Assam	247.24	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
23.	Manipur	64.65	104.06	58.33	96.54	100.00
24.	Meghalaya	42.10	23.34	81.02	97.31	75.00
25.	Mizoram	101.05	168.87	243.68	251.10	125.00
26.	Nagaland	176.24	315.00	345.64	301.32	150.00
27.	Sikkim	32.09	0.00	50.86	57.27	75.00
28.	Tripura	154.23	43.33	219.82	142.08	0.00
29.	NCT Delhi	35.20	48.30	53.63	55.20	40.00
30.	Pondicherry	4.00	11.70	10.23	18.80	0.00
31.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	7.20	4.67	10.83	16.00	8.00
32.	Chandigarh	6.00	4.10	4.80	5.80	4.00
33.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.20	0.33	0.00	11.40	0.00
34.	Daman and Diu	0.20	0.33	1.71	1.00	0.00
35.	Lakshadweep	3.60	13.24	12.66	16.00	8.00

Statement II*Central assistance provided under National Project on Rinderpest Eradication (NPRE)*

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of State/ UT	Amount released during 2003-04	Amount released during 2004-05	Amount released during 2005-06	Amount released during 2006-07	Amount released 2007-08 till date
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	10.00	40.00	35.00	35.00	0.00
2.	Bihar	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3.	Chhattisgarh	10.00	10.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
4.	Goa	10.00	10.00	25.00	0.00	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
5.	Gujarat	25.00	20.00	30.00	15.00	5.00
6.	Haryana	20.00	35.00	30.00	20.00	10.00
7.	Himachal Pradesh	20.00	15.00	22.00	15.00	10.00
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	20.00	32.50	23.00	5.00	0.00
9.	Jharkhand	15.00	15.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
10.	Karnataka	25.00	40.00	38.00	49.00	0.00
11.	Kerala	20.00	15.00	10.00	25.00	8.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	25.00	35.00	10.00	25.00	7.00
13.	Maharashtra	25.00	35.00	35.00	34.94	15.00
14.	Orissa	20.00	15.00	15.00	20.00	5.00
15.	Punjab	15.00	15.00	15.00	30.00	0.00
16.	Rajasthan	25.00	20.00	30.00	15.00	10.00
17.	Tamilnadu	10.00	15.00	30.00	25.00	0.00
18.	Uttar Pradesh	20.00	20.00	25.00	25.00	10.00
19.	Uttaranchal	10.00	10.00	0.00	0.00	5.00
20.	West Bengal	10.00	35.00	45.00	45.00	0.00
21.	Arunachal Pradesh	15.00	25.00	35.00	35.00	0.00
22.	Assam	25.00	20.00	20.00	10.00	0.00
23.	Manipur	15.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	0.00
24.	Meghalaya	25.00	10.00	0.00	5.00	5.00
25.	Mizoram	15.00	10.00	20.00	20.00	0.00
26.	Nagaland	15.00	10.00	15.00	15.00	10.00
27.	Sikkim	20.00	10.00	0.00	15.00	0.00
28.	Tripura	20.00	10.00	20.00	0.00	0.00
29.	NCT Delhi	5.00	4.00	10.00	8.00	8.00
30.	Pondicherry	5.00	6.00	0.00	2.00	0.00
31.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	2.00	2.00	2.00	1.00	1.00
32.	Chandigarh	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.00
33.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.00
34.	Daman and Diu	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.00	0.00
35.	Lakshadweep	2.00	2.00	1.00	1.00	1.00

Statement III*Central assistance provided under Professional Efficiency Development (PED)*

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of State/ UT	Amount released during 2003-04	Amount released during 2004-05	Amount released during 2005-06	Amount released during 2006-07	Amount released 2007-08 till date
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3.60	5.00	3.00	1.00	3.00
2.	Bihar	1.20	1.00	1.213	1.812	0.00
3.	Chhattisgarh	0.80	0.00	7.50	0.00	3.00
4.	Goa	2.00	1.25	0.00	0.00	5.00
5.	Gujarat	4.00	5.00	5.00	10.00	5.00
6.	Haryana	9.00	6.50	4.00	4.00	0.00
7.	Himachal Pradesh	3.20	5.00	0.00	10.00	5.00
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	0.80	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
9.	Jharkhand	0.80	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
10.	Karnataka	4.00	6.00	7.00	20.00	5.00
11.	Kerala	7.50	8.00	8.00	20.00	0.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	2.00	1.50	0.00	10.00	0.00
13.	Maharashtra	28.84	2.00	0.00	25.00	0.00
14.	Orissa	3.20	2.50	20.00	0.00	0.00
15.	Punjab	2.00	1.50	6.50	0.00	0.00
16.	Rajasthan	15.00	32.50	17.50	25.00	5.00
17.	Tamilnadu	2.00	1.50	1.25	0.00	0.00
18.	Uttar Pradesh	6.08	6.00	7.00	21.188	0.00
19.	Uttaranchal	0.80	10.00	2.037	0.00	5.00
20.	West Bengal	12.00	9.75	30.00	22.00	0.00
21.	Arunachal Pradesh	2.40	1.50	20.00	0.00	0.00
22.	Assam	2.00	1.50	0.00	0.00	0.00
23.	Manipur	2.40	15.50	13.50	15.00	0.00
24.	Meghalaya	2.00	1.50	3.74	12.00	6.00
25.	Mizoram	8.60	8.00	12.00	12.00	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
26.	Nagaland	17.00	6.00	20.76	10.00	0.00
27.	Sikkim	2.00	6.00	0.00	16.00	0.00
28.	Tripura	3.60	10.00	0.00	10.00	0.00
29.	NCT Delhi	6.40	9.00	12.00	7.50	0.00
30.	Pondicherry	3.60	6.00	3.00	7.50	7.50
31.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	9.00	10.00	10.00	12.00	6.00
32.	Chandigarh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
33.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
34.	Daman and Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
35.	Lakshadweep	0.80	5.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Statement IV*Central assistance provided under Foot and Mouth Disease Control Programme (FMD-CP)*

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of State/ UT	Amount released during 2003-04	Amount released during 2004-05	Amount released during 2005-06	Amount released during 2006-07	Amount released 2007-08 till date
1.	Andhra Pradesh	98.00	150.00	130.00	60.00	0.00
2.	Gujarat	88.00	150.00	80.00	0.00	0.00
3.	Haryana	116.00	200.00	55.00	0.00	50.00
4.	Kerala	41.00	58.00	60.00	0.00	10.00
5.	Maharashtra	122.00	180.00	0.00	123.00	25.00
6.	Punjab	126.00	200.00	70.00	100.00	0.00
7.	Tamilnadu	14.00	20.00	40.00	12.00	10.00
8.	Uttar Pradesh	282.00	524.00	260.00	100.00	60.00
9.	NCT Delhi	7.00	10.00	5.00	4.00	3.00
10.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	3.00	1.00	14.00	2.00	1.00
11.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	2.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
12.	Daman and Diu	2.00	1.00	1.00	0.00	0.00
13.	Lakshadweep	5.00	4.00	0.00	2.00	1.00

Procurement of Goods for Armed Forces

2886. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the value of goods procured through limited/open tenders;

(b) the details of items procured on limited/open tenders during 2001-06, the details of suppliers and rate, item-wise and command-wise;

(c) whether majority of items have been procured through limited/single tenders rather than through open tenders;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reasons for procuring high value items on limited tenders and steps taken to check irregularities in procurements?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A. K. ANTONY): (a) to (e) Power to purchase goods has been delegated to various authorities as per existing rules and procedures, because of the magnitude of the exercise. No central database is, therefore, maintained for such purchases.

Closure of Military Dairy Farm

2887. SHRI VIJAY BAHUGUNA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is planning to close down the Military Dairy Farm at Dehradun (Uttarakhand);

(b) the policy for closure of Military Dairy Farm adopted by the Government; and

(c) the criteria being adopted by the Government for closure of the said Dairy Farm?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (c) Based on the recommendations of the Committee of Officers set up by Ministry of Defence in 2003 to look into the issue of reorganization of Military Farms, which are found to be economically unviable and where alternative source of supply of quality milk at cheaper price was available through NCDFI/State Milk Federation, orders were issued for reorganization and closure of 8 Military Farms including Dehradun Military Farm on

27.6.2007. These farms were recommended for closure on account of constraint of land, infrastructure, availability of milk ex-cooperative, survival ability of cattle and preference of troops. Percentage production of dairy product by the MF vis-a-vis total requirement of the station, cost of production vis-a-vis the cost of milk available ex milk cooperatives and the need to give boost to local farmers and cooperatives were also considered by the Committee. Moreover, C&AG in their report on Military Farms have in particular emphasized the need of cost benefit analysis with a view to closing uneconomical farms. Decisions taken were accordingly based on various relevant inputs.

Regulation of Internet Telephony Companies

2888. SHRI EKNATH MAHADEQ GAIKWAD:
SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to regulate internet telephony companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these regulations are also applicable to Indian companies;

(d) if so, the details in this regard; and

(e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (e) The Government has decided to issue a single licence for provision of Internet services including Internet telephony and facility to establish Internet Gateway stations to companies registered under Indian Companies Act, 1956. Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) ceiling in the Licensee Companies is 74%.

Soil Erosion

2889. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the increasing soil erosion in the mining areas in the country; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to develop the land and save from further degradation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) The Government of India is aware of the soil erosion in the mining areas in the country.

The Government of India have formulated a National Mineral Policy (NMP), 1993 (updated upto 29-11-2004) for mineral development and protection of the degraded areas due to mining in the country. The NMP envisages that extraction and development of minerals are closely inter-linked with other natural resources like land, water, air and forest. The mining activities often leads to environmental problems like land degradation particularly in opencast mining, land subsidence in underground mining, deforestation, atmospheric pollution, pollution of rivers and streams, disposal of solid wastes, etc. affecting the ecological balance of the area. Open-cast mining in areas with actual forest cover leads to deforestation. Prevention and mitigation of adverse environmental effects due to mining and processing of minerals and repairing and revegetation of the affected forest area and land covered by trees in accordance with the prescribed norms and established forestry practices form integral part of mine development strategy in every instance. The National Mineral Policy (NMP) lays down that mining operations shall not ordinarily be taken up in identified ecologically fragile and biologically rich areas. Strip mining in forest areas should as far as possible be avoided and it should be permitted only when accompanied with comprehensive time-bound reclamation programme. It also directs that no mining lease would be granted to any party, private or public, without a proper mining plan including the environmental management plan approved and enforced by statutory authorities. The environmental management plan should adequately provide for controlling the environmental damage, restoration of mined areas and for planting of trees according to the prescribed norms. As far as possible, reclamation and afforestation will proceed concurrently with mineral extraction. The NMP also emphasizes that efforts should be made to convert old disused mining sites into forests and other appropriate forms of land use.

In addition to above, the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) through Central Soil & Water Conservation Research & Training Institute, Dehradun

along with its eight Regional Stations is providing requisite technology support in terms of appropriate soil-water conservation measures, land treatments, physical, chemical and biological reclamation and agro-forestry interventions for rehabilitation of mine spoil areas and to prevent further land degradation in the country.

[Translation]

Food Security Package

2890. PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:
SHRI KAILASH NATH SINGH YADAV:
SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK:
SHRI MOHD. TAHIR:
SHRI SHISHUPAL N. PATLE:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has announced a Food Security Package for the agriculturally backward States in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has since identified the beneficiary States;

(d) if so, the details thereof indicating the names of the districts identified therefor;

(e) the criteria followed therefor; and

(f) the amount earmarked for the said package?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) In view of stagnation in foodgrain production, the National Development Council (NDC) adopted a resolution to enhance the production of rice, wheat and pulses by 10, 8 and 2 million tonnes, respectively by the end of XI Plan. To operationalise the resolution of NDC, the Government has contemplated a Centrally Sponsored Scheme "National Food Security Mission" (NFSM) to enhance the production of wheat, rice and pulses during the XI Five Year Plan. The National Food Security Mission will have three components viz., National Food Security Mission—Rice (NFSM - Rice), National Food Security Mission—Wheat (NFSM -Wheat) and National Food

Security Mission—Pulses (NFSM-Pulses). The NFSM-Rice will be implemented in 133 identified districts of 12 States viz., Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal. The NFSM-Wheat will be implemented in 138 identified districts of 9 States viz., Bihar, Gujarat, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Punjab, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. The NFSM - Pulses will be implemented in 168 identified districts of 14 States viz., Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

(d) The list of identified districts is enclosed as statement.

(e) The districts having sizeable area under specific crops with their productivity less than that of the State average but have the potential for enhancing the productivity have been identified in the Mission.

(f) A total financial outlay of Rs. 4862.48 crores have been earmarked under NFSM during the XI Five Year Plan.

Statement

Identified Districts for the implementation of NFSM-Rice during XI Plan

State	District
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	
1.	Adilabad
2.	Guntur
3.	Khammam
4.	Krishna
5.	Mahaboobnagar
6.	Medak
7.	Nalgonda
8.	Nellore
9.	Srikakulam
10.	Visakhapatnam
11.	Vizianagaram

1	2
Assam	
1.	Barpeta
2.	Bongaigaon
3.	Darrang
4.	Dhemaji
5.	Goalpara
6.	Karbi-Anglong
7.	Kokrajhar
8.	Lakhimpur
9.	Morigon
10.	Nalbari
11.	Sonitpur
12.	Nagaon
13.	Tinsukia
Bihar	
1.	Araria
2.	Banka
3.	Champanan (East)
4.	Champanan (West)
5.	Darbhanga
6.	Gaya
7.	Katihar
8.	Kishanganj
9.	Madhubani
10.	Madhepura
11.	Muzaffarpur
12.	Nalanda
13.	Saharsa
14.	Samastipur
15.	Sitamarhi
16.	Siwan

1	2
17.	Supaul
18.	Zamui
Chhattisgarh	
1.	Dantewara
2.	Janjgir-Champa
3.	Jashpur
4.	Kawardha
5.	Korba
6.	Koriya
7.	Raigarh
8.	Raipur
9.	Raj Nandgaon
10.	Sarguja
Jharkhand	
1.	Simdega
2.	Singhbhum (W)
3.	Ranchi
4.	Gumla
5.	Hazaribagh
Karnataka	
1.	Belgaum
2.	Shimoga
3.	Uttarakannada
4.	Dakshin Kannada
5.	Udupi
6.	Hassan
7.	Raichur
Madhya Pradesh	
1.	Anuppur
2.	Damoh
3.	Dindori

1	2
4.	Katni
5.	Mandla
6.	Panna
7.	Rewa
8.	Satna
9.	Shahdol
Maharashtra	
1.	Bhandara
2.	Chandrapur
3.	Gadchiroli
4.	Gondia
5.	Nasik
6.	Pune
Orissa	
1.	Bolangir
2.	Jajpur
3.	Dhenkanal
4.	Angul
5.	Kalahandi
6.	Nawapara
7.	Keonjhar
8.	Malikangiri
9.	Nawarangpur
10.	Phulbani
11.	Boudha
12.	Nayagarh
13.	Deoghar
14.	Jharsuguda
15.	Sundargarh
Tamil Nadu	
1.	Nagapattinam

1	2
2.	Pudukkottai
3.	Ramanathapuram
4.	Sivagangai
5.	Thiruvavur
Uttar Pradesh	
1.	Azamgarh
2.	Badaun
3.	Bahraich
4.	Ballia
5.	Balrampur
6.	Banda
7.	Bareilly
8.	Basti
9.	Deoria
10.	Fatehpur
11.	Gonda
12.	Gorakhpur
13.	Ghazipur
14.	Hardoi
15.	Mainpuri
16.	Mau
17.	Mirzapur
18.	Raebareilly
19.	Rampur
20.	Saharanpur
21.	Shivasti
22.	Siddharthnagar
23.	Sitapur
24.	Sonbhadra
25.	Sultanpur
26.	Unnao

1	2
West Bengal	
1.	24 Parganas (South)
2.	Cooch-Behar
3.	Dinajpur (North)
4.	Howrah
5.	Jalpaiguri
6.	Midnapur (East)
7.	Midnapur (West)
8.	Purulia
<i>Identified Districts for the implementation of NFSM-Wheat during XI Plan</i>	
State	District
1	2
Bihar	
1.	Araria
2.	Baghalpur
3.	Banka
4.	Bhabua
5.	Champaran (E)
6.	Champaran (W)
7.	Darbhanga
8.	Jamui
9.	Katihar
10.	Khagaria
11.	Kishanganj
12.	Madhubani
13.	Madhepura
14.	Muzaffarpur
15.	Nalanda
16.	Purnia
17.	Rohtas
18.	Samastipur
19.	Saran
20.	Sitamarhi

1	2
21.	Supaul
22.	Vaishali
23.	Monghyr
24.	Nawada
25.	Sekhpura
West Bengal	
1.	Jalpaiguri
2.	Coochbehar
3.	Dinajpur (N)
4.	Dinajpur (S)
Madhya Pradesh	
1.	Betul
2.	Bhind
3.	Chattarpur
4.	Damoh
5.	Dewas
6.	East Nimar
7.	Guna
8.	Harda
9.	Indore
10.	Jabalpur
11.	Katni
12.	Raisen
13.	Rajgarh
14.	Rewa
15.	Sagar
16.	Satna
17.	Sehore
18.	Seoni
19.	Shivpuri
20.	Sidhi

1	2
21.	Tikamgarh
22.	Ujjain
23.	Vidisha
24.	Balaghat
25.	Dhaar
26.	Dindori
27.	Jhabua
28.	Mandala
29.	Panna
30.	Shahdol
Punjab	
1.	Hoshiarpur
2.	Firozpur
3.	Bhatinda
4.	Rupnagar
5.	Amritsar
6.	Sangrur
7.	Gurdaspur
Haryana	
1.	Bhiwani
2.	Ambala
3.	Gurgaon
4.	Jamunanagar
5.	Rohtak
6.	Jhajjar
7.	Mahendergarh
Uttar Pradesh	
1.	Allahabad
2.	Ambedkar Nagar
3.	Azamgarh
4.	Bahraich
5.	Ballia

1	2
6.	Balrampur
7.	Bareilly
8.	Basti
9.	Chandauli
10.	Chitrakoot
11.	Deoria
12.	Faizabad
13.	Fatehpur
14.	Gazipur
15.	Gonda
16.	Gorakhpur
17.	Hamirpur
18.	Hardoi
19.	Jaunpur
20.	Jhansi
21.	Kaushambi
22.	Lalitpur
23.	Lucknow
24.	Maharajganj
25.	Mahoba
26.	Mau
27.	Mirzapur
28.	Pratapgarh
29.	Raebareli
30.	Ravidasnagar
31.	Sant Kabir Nagar
32.	Shravasti
33.	Siddharthnagar
34.	Sitapur
35.	Sultanpur
36.	Unnao

1	2
37.	Sonbhadra
38.	Varanasi
Rajasthan	
1.	Ajmer
2.	Banswara
3.	Bhilwara
4.	Bikaner
5.	Jaipur
6.	Jalore
7.	Jhalawar
8.	Kota
9.	Nalore
10.	Pali
11.	S. Madhopur
12.	Sikar
13.	Sirohi
14.	Tonk
15.	Udaipur
Maharashtra	
1.	Ahmednagar
2.	Aurangabad
3.	Dhule
4.	Nagpur
5.	Nasik
6.	Parbhani
7.	Pune
8.	Solapur
Gujarat	
1.	Ahmedabad
2.	Sabarkantha
3.	Banaskantha
4.	Mehsana

*Identified Districts for the implementation of
NFSM-Pulses during XI Plan*

State	District
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	
1.	Adilabad
2.	Anantpur
3.	Cuddapah
4.	East Godavari
5.	Guntur
6.	Khammam
7.	Krishna
8.	Kurmool
9.	Mahaboobnagar
10.	Nalgonda
11.	Nizamabad
12.	Prakasam
13.	Srikakulam
14.	Warangal
Uttar Pradesh	
1.	Jhansi
2.	Jalaun
3.	Hamirpur
4.	Sitapur
5.	Banda
6.	Chitrakoot
7.	Mahoba
8.	Bahraich
9.	Barabanki
10.	Kheri
11.	Lalitpur
12.	Kanpur (Dehat)
13.	Kaushambi
14.	Mirzapur

1	2
15.	Badaun
16.	Balia
17.	Fatehpur
18.	Balarampur
19.	Chandauli
Karnataka	
1.	Bagalkot
2.	Belgaum
3.	Bellary
4.	Bidar
5.	Bijapur
6.	Chitradurga
7.	Dharwad
8.	Gadag
9.	Gulbarga
10.	Koppal
11.	Mysore
12.	Raichur
13.	Tumkur
Tamil Nadu	
1.	Coimbatore
2.	Cuddalore
3.	Erode
4.	Nagapattinam
5.	Namakkal
6.	Thiruvallur
7.	Thiruvallur
8.	Thoothukudi
9.	Tiruvannamalai
10.	Vellore
11.	Villupuram
12.	Virudunagar

1	2
Madhya Pradesh	
1.	Chhatarpur
2.	Chindwara
3.	Damoh
4.	Dewas
5.	Guna
6.	Rewa
7.	Raisen
8.	Satna
9.	Tikamgarh
10.	Sagar
11.	Vidisha
12.	Ujjain
13.	Jabalpur
14.	Narasinghpur
15.	Shivpuri
16.	Panna
17.	Rajgarh
18.	Seoni
19.	Shajapur
20.	Jhabua
Haryana	
1.	Rohtak
2.	Sonepat
3.	Bhilwani
4.	Hissar
5.	Sirsa
Maharashtra	
1.	Ahmednagar
2.	Akola
3.	Amravati
4.	Aurangabad

1	2
5.	Buldhana
6.	Chandrapur
7.	Hingoli
8.	Jalgaon
9.	Jalana
10.	Latur
11.	Nagpur
12.	Nanded
13.	Nasik
14.	Osmanabad
15.	Parbhani
16.	Wardha
17.	Washim
18.	Yavatmal
Rajasthan	
1.	Ajmer
2.	Bikaner
3.	Barmer
4.	Chittorgarh
5.	Churu
6.	Dausa
7.	Ganganagar
8.	Hanumangarh
9.	Jaipur
10.	Jhunjhunu
11.	Jodhpur
12.	Kota
13.	Nagaur
14.	Sikar
15.	Tonk

1	2
Gujarat	
1.	Banaskantha
2.	Broach
3.	Dohad
4.	Jamnagar
5.	Kutch
6.	Narmada
7.	Panch Mahals
8.	Patan
9.	Sabarkantha
10.	Surat
11.	Vadodara
Orissa	
1.	Bolangir
2.	Baragarh
3.	Cuttack
4.	Ganjam
5.	Kalahandi
6.	Keonjhar
7.	Khurda
8.	Nayagarh
9.	Puri
10.	Rayagada
West Bengal	
1.	Birbhum
2.	Malda
3.	Murshidabad
4.	Nadia
5.	Purulia
Punjab	
1.	Ludhiana

1	2
2.	Sangrur
3.	Ferozpur
4.	Gurdaspur
5.	Amritsar
Bihar	
1.	Araria
2.	Aurangabad
3.	Bhojpur
4.	Bhabhua
5.	Madhubani
6.	Madhepura
7.	Muzaffarpur
8.	Nalanda
9.	Patna
10.	Purnia
11.	Saharsa
12.	Samastipur
13.	Supaul
Chhattisgarh	
1.	Bilaspur
2.	Durg
3.	Jashpur
4.	Kawardha
5.	Raigarh
6.	Raipur
7.	Rajnandgaon
8.	Sarguja

*[English]***National Fishery Development Board**

2891. DR. K.S. MANOJ: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has recently constituted National Fishery Development Board;

(b) if so, the details and objectives thereof;

(c) the nature of the constitution of said Board;

(d) whether there is any proposal to nominate the representatives of Members of Parliament in the governing body of said Board on the lines of other National Boards like Coir Board, Coffee Board etc.;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB) has been registered under the Andhra Pradesh Societies Act, 2001 in July, 2006. The main objective of the Board is to bring major activities relating to fisheries and aquaculture for focused attention and professional management by coordinating activities pertaining to fisheries undertaken by different Ministries/ Departments in the Central Government and to work in coordination with the States/Union Territories to improve production, processing, storage, transport and marketing of products of capture and culture fisheries.

(c) The Board has a Governing Body with Agriculture Minister as the Chairman to give necessary guidance and direction to the Board. There is an Executive Committee headed by Secretary, Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, which is vested with the general superintendence, direction and control of affairs and functions of the Board.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) and (f) Questions do not arise.

Bird Flu in Milch Animals

2892. SHRI VIJOY KRISHNA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether cases of flu in milching animals similar to Bird Flu have been reported recently in various States;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) the steps taken to check spread of said flu?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Question does not arise.

Training-cum-Product Development Centres

2893. SHRI S. K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is proposal to set up training-cum-product development centres for Agro and Rural Industries; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Recommendations on Sparing the Frequency Spectrum

2894. SHRI K.S. RAO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state the outcome and recommendations of the Group of Ministers on sparing the frequency spectrum for reaching the target of increasing the mobile subscriber's base in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): The recommendations of the Group of Ministers on 'vacation of spectrum and raising resources for the purpose' are awaited.

[*Translation*]

Recovery of Loans

2895. SHRI RAGHUVVEER SINGH KOSHAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the amount recovered from the farmers as interest by the Public Sector Banks and Cooperative banks particularly the Land Development Banks is more than the loan amount;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether data in regard to the principal amount of loan and the interest recovered thereon is maintained;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether in some States, there is a ban on recovering interest more than the principal loan amount from the farmers; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Theft and Robbery in Post Offices

2896. SHRI PRATIK P. PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of theft and robberies which took place in Post offices during the year 2005-06;

(b) whether the armed security guards were provided in these Post offices;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government proposes to review the policy regarding provision of armed guards in big Post offices; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) During the year 2005-06, 398 incidents of theft and robberies in Post offices were reported.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) As per extant Departmental instructions, the Heads of Postal Circles are delegated powers to make arrangements for deploying armed guards requisitioning from State Government keeping in view the factors such as locality in which the post office is housed, the construction and layout of the building, the kind of safe used in post office, availability of night guard/chowkidar, distance from the nearest police station and general law and order situation in consultation with police authorities. The post offices in (a) above were small post offices; armed guards are generally provided in big post offices like General Post Offices (GPOs) and Head Post Offices (HPOs).

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise in view of (d) above.

Inclusion of Cotton Seeds in ECA

2897. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether inferior quality Bg I hybrid seeds were sold as Bg II in certain States;

(b) if so, whether the Government has received requests from the States to include cotton seed in the list of Essential Commodities Act, 1955;

(c) if so, the details thereof and reaction of the Government thereto; and

(d) the other steps proposed to be taken to check such fraudulent sale of seeds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Bt. Cotton seeds are produced and marketed in the country by private sector seed companies. There are no reports from any State about sale of inferior quality Bollgard (BG) hybrid as Bollgard II (BG II).

(b) to (d) Government of Andhra Pradesh has made a reference to the Government of India regarding deletion of cotton seed from the list of essential commodities and has requested for restoration of cotton seeds as an essential commodity under the Essential Commodities Act,

1955, in view of the Interim Order issued by Andhra Pradesh High court in the case titled *M/s Mahyco Seeds Limited and Others V/s State of Andhra Pradesh and Others* ruling that cotton seeds are not an essential commodity as a result of the amendments carried out by The Essential Commodities (Amendment) Act, 2006, which came into force on 12th February, 2007. The Government of India has taken note of the request of the Government of Andhra Pradesh. Further, to check fraudulent sale of Bt. Cotton seeds, Government has notified Central Institute of Cotton Research, Nagpur as referral laboratory for testing the presence of Bt. genes, State Governments have been provided funds to strengthen seed testing laboratories, awareness campaigns on various aspects of Bt. Cotton cultivation have been conducted in all Bt. cotton growing States and seed inspectors have been empowered to draw samples of Bt. cotton seeds under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 to regulate quality. States have also been advised to take punitive action against persons selling spurious Bt. cotton seeds.

[*Translation*]

Irrigation Project in Maharashtra

2898. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether premium prices has been demanded to provide non-forest land for the irrigation projects in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government of Maharashtra has agreed to pay the premium prices; and

(d) if so, the time by which the pending claims are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Irrigation is a State subject and planning, execution, funding as well as payment of prices for

acquisition of non forest land for the irrigation project is within the purview of the State Government of Maharashtra. Government of Maharashtra has informed that premium price has not been demanded to provide non forest land for the irrigation projects in Maharashtra.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[*English*]

Bio-fertiliser Production Units

2899. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:
SHRI SUGRIB SINGH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Bio-fertilizer Production Units operating in various States alongwith their installed capacity as on date;

(b) the details of the actual production in each of the said units during the last three years; and

(c) the details of the monitoring system to maintain a check on the quality of bio-fertilizer being sold in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) The installed capacity of Bio-fertilizer Production Units in various States is 43,720 Tonnes per annum (TPA) and their actual production during 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 was 10,605, 10,764 and 16,145 Tonnes respectively. The unit-wise details are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) To maintain a check on the quality of bio-fertilizers being sold in the country, Government has notified four types of bio-fertilizers namely Rhizobium, Azotobacter, Azospirillum and Phosphate Solubilizing Bacteria under Fertilizer (Control) Order, 1985.

Statement

Capacity and Production of Biofertilisers Units in India

(in MT)

State	Organization Name	Capacity	Production		
			2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
1	2	3	4	5	6
Andhra Pradesh	Mr. Krishan Rao, Krishna Agro Bioproducts Vrikshamitra 9/1/A-1 Road No. 16 IDA Nacharam, Hyderabad	3000	1925	2153.00	2405.000

1	2	3	4	5	6
Andhra Pradesh	Radar Biotech Vijaywara	150		8.25	44.250
Andhra Pradesh	Rovar Biotech Vijaywara	150		19	14.430
Andhra Pradesh	Prathista Industries Ltd. S. Lingotam (V) Chotuppal (M) Nalgonda (D) (A.P.)	2000		0	1805.000
Andhra Pradesh	Sri Sai Agro Bio Lab. Cheerumpally, Vijayanagaram (A.P.)	200		0	171.900
Andhra Pradesh	Varsha Biosciences and Technology 17-1- 382/SN/1/2, MNR Colony, Balaji Nagar, Hyderabad (A.P.)	75		0	11.619
Andhra Pradesh	ANG Ranga Univ., Hyderabad		30.72		
Andhra Pradesh	Biotech Agro, Hyderabad		10		
Andhra Pradesh	Godavari Fertilizers & Chemicals, H Bad		20.53		
Andhra Pradesh	RSTL, Hyderabad	100	2	48.32	48.420
Andhra Pradesh	Biofertilizer Production Unit, Thiruchirappalli		31.25	19.86	
	Total	5675	2019.5	2246.43	4500.619
Assam	N.E. Green Tech P. Ltd., Anuradha Complex, Baraun Maiden, Guwahati, Assam	25		53.8	
Assam	Assam Agro, Copn. Ltd.		25.2		
Assam	BVFC, Namrup, Dibrugarj, Assam	25			7.065
Assam	Orgaman R & D Division Nehru Park, T.R. Phukan Road, Jorhat	25			1.400
Assam	Director of Agriculture, Guwahati			52.4	
	Total	75	25.2	108.2	8.465
Bihar	Association for Social Economic Transformation Baurani, Bihar	150	15.0	41	36.900
	Total	150	15.0	41	36.9
Goa	Cosme Biotech, Panaji, Goa	150			3.50
	Total	150			3.50
Delhi	IARI, New Delhi		1.37	1.23	
	Total		1.37	1.23	
Gujarat	Gujarat State Cooperative Marketing Fed. Ltd., Ahmedabad	250	54.11	192.64	232.561
Gujarat	Gujarat State Fertilizers & Chemicals Ltd., Vadodara	600	286.16	434.05	277.270

1	2	3	4	5	6
Gujarat	KRIBHCO-Hazira, Surat	600	419.85	539.22	559.310
Gujarat	Gujarat Agro Industries Cop. Ltd.,		54.11		
Gujarat	CORDET Kalol, Gandhi Nagar	250	128.67	205.69	181.49
	Total	1700	943.00	1371.6	1250.631
Haryana	CCS Haryana Agriculture University, Hisar	75	20.16	23.48	30.22
	Total	75	20.16	23.48	30.22
Himachal Pradesh	Sr. Analytical Chemist Labroatory, Shimla	75	10.30	9.59	
	Total	75	10.30	9.59	
Karnataka	University of Agril. Sciences, Department of Agril. Microbiology, College of Agriculture, Dhanwad-580 005	50			6.91
Karnataka	West Coast Herbo Chem Ltd., 105/B, Industrial Suburb II Stage, III Cross, Goraguntepalya, Tumkur Road, Bangalore-560 022	50	34.19	38.82	25.63
Karnataka	Rhizobium Production Lab., Kotnur, Gulbarga	50	13.58	20.48	19.72
Karnataka	K.C.D.C. Haralakunte, Madiwala Post Bangalore-68	16000	22.42		
Karnataka	Vital Plant Products, Gowrishankar Estate, Harihalli-573 129, Via K. Hoskote, Alur TK, Hassan DT	1000			
Karnataka	Rhizobium Prodn. Lab., Dhanwad	25	6.67	544.7	
Karnataka	Rhizobium Lab. Hebbal, Bangalore	75	10.92	8	11.03
Karnataka	Kadur Agro,		0.50		
Karnataka	Karnataka Biofertilisers		820.28		
Karnataka	UAS-GKVK, Bangalore		1.82		
Karnataka	Samrath Biotech		103.40		
Karnataka	Multiplex Biotech Pvt. Ltd., # 420-A, Peenya Indl. Area, Peenya Ist Stage, Bangalore-58	400	122.08		108.35
Karnataka	Chaitra Fertilizers & Chemicals (P) Ltd., No. E-1, Sri Krishna Complex, D. Banumaiah Circle, Mysore	200			170.00
	Total	17850	1135.86	612	341.64
Kerala	M/s Agro Biotech Research Centre Ltd., Indl. Area, Poovanthuruthu P.O. Kottayam-686 012, Kerala	500	118.19		222.69

1	2	3	4	5	6
Kerala	Chief Sales Manager Biofertilizer Prod. Unit, The Fertilizer & Chemicals Travancore, Eloor Udgyogamndal-683 501, Kerala	10			
Kerala	Plantrich Chemicals & Fertilizers Ltd., Industrial Estate, Manarcad P.O. Kottayam-686 019, Kerala	25			18.90
Kerala	The Managing Director Poabs Environtech (P) Ltd., Vilapissala (PO), Peyad, Trivendrum-695 573, Kerala	500			10.08
Kerala	State Biofertiliser Lab Trivnanatpuram		83		
Kerala	Travancore Organic Fertilizer Company, Kangazha (PO), Kottayam-686 541, Kerala	500			10.081
Kerala	Fertilizer and Chemicals Travancore Ltd., Cochin		2.08	8.34	
	Total	1535	213.25	8.34	261.751
Madhya Pradesh	Nafed Biofertilizer, Indore	500	596	225.57	401.40
Madhya Pradesh	NFL-Vijaypur, Guna	150	123.33	175.1	124.20
Madhya Pradesh	Agri Business & Dev. Coop. Bhopal	50		39.36	36.12
Madhya Pradesh	The M.P. State Agro Ind., Dev. Corpn., Bhopal	500	615.61	383.04	443.06
Madhya Pradesh	JNKVV Jabalpur	100			82.27
Madhya Pradesh	MP Oil Seed Fed. Ltd., Dhar	150			106.21
Madhya Pradesh	Indore Biotech Input & Res. (P.) Ltd., Indore	250			11.50
	Total	1700	1333.94	823.07	1204.76
Mizoram	State Biofertilizer Production Unit, Nethowai, Mizoram	25			1.68
	Total	25			1.68
Maharashtra	M/s Niku Bio Research Station 613, Nanapeth, Pune (M.S.)	150	28.5	10.26	35.05
Maharashtra	Microplex India 36 Mohata Market, Main Road, Wardha	150	40.13	111.82	44.18
Maharashtra	Kumar Krishi Mitra Bio Products (I) P. Ltd., 917/17, 12 Ganeshwadi, Fergusan Road, Near Vaishali Hotel, British Council Library Lane, Pune (M.S.)	500	813.18	899.23	459.5
Maharashtra	Bacterial Section, Agricultural College, Pune (M.S.) Phone (M.S.)	50	12.04	9.44	34.94
Maharashtra	Krishi Jewanu Anubhag, Pune			9.45	
Maharashtra	Choudhury Agrotech, Sri Devi Complex, Agyaram Devi Chowk, Subhas Road, Nagpur (M.S.)	50	1095.0	22.5	43.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
Maharashtra	Vaibhav Luxmi Biocontrol Lab., Wardha (M.S.)	75	23.5	26.5	51.00
Maharashtra	Arun Biofertilisers Near MSEB, Power House Kurundwad, Tal-Shirol, Kolhapur	150	132	125	145.00
Maharashtra	Nomain Agriproducts, 6 Gandharav Apartment, S.No. 38, Erandvana, Near Mehendali Garage Opp. Hotel Abhishek, Pune	20	1.18	1.55	2.49
Maharashtra	Nityam Bio-fertilizer Prod. Unit Plot No. 46/40 Mahad Colony Near ITI, Wardha	150	50.24	47.5	34.60
Maharashtra	Kisan Agro Chem, Bhartiya Complex, Behind Mundada Hospital, N/o Gujarathi High School, Nanded (M.S.)	50	1.18	5	1.25
Maharashtra	ELLORA Biotech, 20, Udyogmitra Industrial Estate, Chitegaon, Palthan, Aurangabad (M.S.)	175	14.5	26	161.50
Maharashtra	K-Fert Lab. 25 First Floor Gurunank Market Nanded	150	104	79	88.00
Maharashtra	Institute of Natural Organic Agriculture (INORA) 11 B, Kulkarani Bungalow, Shikshak Nagar, Paud Road, Pune	500	71	58.25	444.1
Maharashtra	Vasant Dada Sugar Industries, Manjari (BK), Pune (M.S.)	300	75	102.76	200.11
Maharashtra	Maharashtra Research and Development Centre, 396, Sainik, Santosh Nagar bale, Solapur (M.S.)	150	14	29.26	118.33
Maharashtra	BAIF Development Res. Foundation, Bhartiya Agro Industries Foundation, Central Res. Station, Urulikanchan, Pune (M.S.)	150	4	6	2.00
Maharashtra	Environmental Protection Research Foundation, 'Arundhati' Vishrambag, Sangali (M.S.)	150	25.5	17.25	76.5
Maharashtra	Bioira Technologies, B-15 Corporation Building, First Floor, Link Road, Nagpur (M.S.)	75		41	50.50
Maharashtra	Govinda Agro Tech Pvt. Ltd., Opposite Agyaram Devi Mandir, Bus Stand Road, Nagpur (M.S.)	150		41	139.40
Maharashtra	OM. Agro org., A-76 MIDC, Yavatmal	250		48	165.00
Maharashtra	Deenee Chemicals Pvt. Ltd., 37/9, MIDC Road Padoli, Chandrapur (M.S.)	150			3.25
Maharashtra	Maharashtra Agriculture Research Station		12.04		
Maharashtra	Aavishkar Biofarm Pvt. Ltd., Ahmednagar		132	93.16	

1	2	3	4	5	6
Maharashtra	SMSMP Patil, Akhunj	150	91.45	77.83	126.26
Maharashtra	Nirmal Seeds Pvt. Ltd., Jalgaon		110	160	
Maharashtra	KNS Biotech, Nanded			5	
Maharashtra	Jain Biotech, Nagpur			6	
Maharashtra	KVK Parbhani		10.87	1.99	
Maharashtra	KRIBHCO, Lanja			38.41	
Maharashtra	MS Industries		8.91		
Maharashtra	Sainath		4.76		
Maharashtra	Vikas Kruit Krishi Sansthan Kendra		75		
	Total	3695	3049.98	2098.96	2425.96
Nagaland	Biofert Lab. Medziphema	50		17.03	10.65
	Total	50		17.03	10.65
Orissa	Orissa A.I.C. Ltd., BBSR	75	21.17	35.97	15.57
Orissa	Deputy Director Agri., BBSR	150	11.45	30	29.97
Orissa	Maa Kanak Biofertilizer, BBSR	250			235.00
	Total	475	32.62	65.97	280.54
West Bengal	Deptt., of Agri West Bengal	75			3.58
West Bengal	Nodule Research Lab.		6.33		
West Bengal	B.C.K.V., Lake Hall Campus, Kalyani	150		32.00	148.45
West Bengal	B.C.K.V., Mohanpur	75			27.43
West Bengal	Nitrofix Laboratories, Kolkata	150	67.53	80.27	76.00
West Bengal	Vivekanan Inst. of Biotechnology, 24-Parganas, Kolkata	75		0.334	73.88
West Bengal	Excel Biotech Pvt. Ltd., 24-Parganas, Kolkata	1000		52	786.00
West Bengal	Lila Agrotech	375		30	313.16
	Total	1900	74.30	194.60	1406.48
Jharkhand	Birsa Agri., University, Ranchi	20		9	5.62
Jharkhand	Swarnarekha Enterprises, Ranchi	200			200.00
	Total	220		9	205.62
Punjab	Punjab Agriculture University, Ludhiana	10	0.37	1.19	2.00
Punjab	BF Production Unit, Ludhiana			1.08	
	Total	10	0.37	2.27	2

1	2	3	4	5	6
Rajasthan	Rhizobium Production Lab., Durgapura, Jaipur	50	34.64	50.11	18.75
Rajasthan	Vasta mahaveer Biolab, Udaipur			3	
Rajasthan	Nafed Biofertilizer SPL-80 RIICO Industrial Area Bharatpur (Rajasthan)	500		377.48	321.00
	Total	550	34.64	430.59	339.75
Tamil Nadu	Monarch Biofertilizers & Res. Centre, No. 12 SIDCO Indi. Area, Thiramazhisai Chennai-602 107	10			3.21
Tamil Nadu	M/s Elbitech Innovations Ltd., 46 & 48, 2nd Floor, Masilamani Road, Balajinagar, Chennai-602 014	100			65.60
Tamil Nadu	The Chief Manager-Bio Products, Madras Fertilizers Ltd., Manali, Chennai-600 068	300			
Tamil Nadu	The Agricultural Chemist Biofertilizer Produ. Unit, Jamal Mohd. College Post Khajamalai Trichy-620 020, Tamil Nadu	300	224.05	215.2	226.48
Tamil Nadu	The Agricultural Chemist Biofertilizer Prodn. Unit Seelanaickenpatty Salem-636 201, Tamilnadu	400	259.95	299.69	315.58
Tamil Nadu	The Agril Chemist Biofertilizer Prodn. Unit Kudumianmalai-62 104, Pudukotai Dist. (Tamilnadu)	300	195.23	224.62	
Tamil Nadu	The SIMA Cotton Dev & Res. Assn. "Shanmukha Manram", P.B. No. 3871, Race Course, Coimbatore-641 018	100	6.41	2.7	54.61
Tamil Nadu	M/s T. Stanes & Co. Ltd., 8/23-24, Race Course Rd, Coimbatore-641 018	500		233.6	390.00
Tamil Nadu	Agril. Chemist Biofertilizers Prodn. Unit, Ramanathapuram R.T.O. Office Road, Collectorate Post, Ramanathapuram-623 503	400	169.21		310.28
Tamil Nadu	M/s Jaypee Biotechs 25, Chinniah School Street, Virudhunagar-626 001, Tamilnadu	75			58.36
Tamil Nadu	Agriculture Chemist Biofertilizer Unit Dept. of Agriculture, Govt. of Tamil Nadu, Gundusalai Road, Sommandalam, Cuddalore-607 001	300	125.69	240.01	
Tamil Nadu	Agriculture Chemist Biofertilizer Prodn. Units, Dept. of Agriculture, Govt. of Tamil Nadu, Sakkottai, Thanjavur-612 401	300			256.93
Tamil Nadu	Tamil Nadu Cooperative Sugar Federation Ltd., 474, Anna Salai, Periyar EVR Bldg., 5th Fl. or Nandanam, Chennai-600 035	400			76.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
Tamil Nadu	OMEGA Ecotech Products India Pvt. Ltd., No. 63-A, Bharathi Nagar Main Road, Bharathi Nagar, Ganapathy, Coimbatore-641 006	500			13.25
Tamil Nadu	TNAU, Coimbatore				
Tamil Nadu	Innova Agrotech (P) Ltd., 2/527-1, East Street, Kulloorchanadai, Virudhunagar-626 001	600			
Tamil Nadu	Modern Nursery Division, Chennai			233.6	
Tamil Nadu	SPIC, Chennai		104.09	1.08	
Tamil Nadu	Esvin Advanced Technologies, Chennai		38.5	14.53	
Tamil Nadu	Madras Fertiliser Ltd., Chennai		21.3	235.28	
Tamil Nadu	BF Production Unit, Sakktotai			243.11	
Tamil Nadu	BF Production Unit, Trichapalli		224.06		
Tamil Nadu	BF Production Unit, Ramnad			264.15	
Tamil Nadu	R. Sunder, 25, Chinniah School Street, Virudhunagar-626 001	700			
	Total	5285	1564.94	2207.57	1770.3
Tripura	Regional Biofertilizer Production Centre, Tripura	50			23.25
	Total	50			23.25
Uttar Pradesh	Deptt., of Agriculture, U.P., Lucknow		130.27	125	
Uttar Pradesh	KRIBHCO, Varanasi			135.88	
Uttar Pradesh	IFFCO, Phulpur			225.42	
Uttar Pradesh	Moti Lal Nehru Farmers Training Institute Phulpur, Allahabad	250			212.78
	Total	250	130.27	486.3	212.78
Pondicherry	ROM Vijay Biotech No. 5 Cuddalore Main Road, Kanniakoil Pondicherry	150			146.00
Pondicherry	M/s. Gokulam Enterprises, No. 36, Sri Ram Nagar, Cuddalore Pondy Main Road, Kuniakoil Pondicherry-607 402	200			1681.78
Pondicherry	M/s PASIC, BF Prodn., Centre Agro House Agriculture Complex, Thattanchavady, Pondicherry-605 009	75		7.78	
	Total	2225		7.78	1827.73
	Grand Total	43720	10604.70	10764.42	16145.28

Fishing Harbour with External Assistance

2900. ADV. SURESH KURUP: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any fishing harbour in the country is proposed to be developed with the assistance of Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO); and

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the harbours selected for the purpose alongwith the criteria adopted for their selection?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) The Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India has been implementing a Technical Cooperation Programme (TCP) on "*Cleaner Fishing Harbours in India*" with assistance from the Food & Agriculture Organization (FAO) with a view to modernize the existing fishing harbours and not for development of new ones.

(b) Under the TCP, two fishing harbours one at Mangrol in Gujarat and other at Dhamra in Orissa have been selected for modernization as models. These two fishing harbours have been selected with a view (i) to have a model in both east and west coasts of the country, (ii) potentiality of the local fishing in terms of number of fishing boats operated, quantum, of fish catch landed at the fishing harbours and fishermen population.

NDC Meet on Agricultural Potential

2901. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has examined the Madhya Pradesh Government's proposal, mooted at the recent National Development Council (NDC) meet for formulating a ten year plan for utilizing the irrigation potential fully;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the decisions taken thereon;

(c) the total estimated irrigation potential of Indian rivers; and

(d) the extent to which it is being utilized at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. No States specific proposals were discussed at the meeting of the National Development Council (NDC) held on 29.5.2007 to consider issues related to the Agriculture sector. The NDC deliberated upon a number of issues and passed a resolution, a copy of which is attached as statement-I.

(c) The Ultimate Irrigation Potential by source and schemes is given in the enclosed statement-II

(d) As reported by the State Governments, an irrigation potential of 102.77 million hectares has been created by the States, upto 2006-07.

Statement I

The National Development Council resolves that agricultral development strategies must be reoriented to meet the needs of the farmers and calls upon the Central and the governments to evolve a strategy to rejuvenate agriculture. The NDC reaffirms its commitment to achieve 4 per cent annual growth in the agricultural sector duing the 11th plan and, towards this end, resolves that the following steps will be taken by the Central and State Governments:

Actions to be taken by the Central Governments

(1) Launch a Food Security Mission covering wheat, rice and pulses as a central scheme aimed at producing over the next four years an additional 8 million tones of wheat, 10 million tones of rice and 2 million tones of pulses over the base year (triennium ending 2006-07).

(2) Introduce a new Additional Central assistance scheme to incentivise States to draw up plans for their agriculture sector more comprehensively, taking agro-climatic conditions, natural resource issues and technology into account, and integrating livestock, poultry and fisheries more fully. This will involve a new scheme for Additional Central Asistance (ACA) to State plans, administered by the Union Ministry of Agriculture over and above its existing Centrally sponsored Schemes, to supplement the State-specific strategies including special schemes for

beneficiaries of land reforms. The newly created National Rainfed area Authority will on request assist States in planning for rainfed areas.

- (3) Provide additional resources for irrigation via AIBP, including a component on modernization, linked to adoption of improved participatory irrigation management and command area development. Schemes involving linkages of rivers within a state could also be considered for AIBP.
- (4) Give the national agriculture research effort a strategic focus by providing additional resources for the National Strategic Research Fund under the Ministry of Agriculture with a governance and implementation structure appropriate to fund Universities, CSIR laboratories and private institutions besides ICAR. Additional funding will also be provided to support regionally focused research projects in State Agricultural Universities.
- (5) Restructure the pattern of RIDE funding by NABARD and replace the present pattern of year by year fund allocation by State-wise indicative allocations for the entire 11th plan period, which will keep in mind the needs of States with low rural credit-deposit ratios. Activities eligible for funding will be reviewed in the light of the needs identified in State agriculture plans for potential growth areas like horticulture, livestock, poultry and fishery including infrastructure for these areas.
- (6) Initiate steps to restructure the fertilizer subsidy programme and its delivery to the farmer, and move to a system that provides balanced plant nutrition without adverse effects on soil. The use of bio-fertilizers, organic manure and micro-nutrients to enhance soil health will be promoted.
- (7) Take new initiatives to improve skill development in the farming community, including training of farmers in modern methods of agriculture as well as imparting skills relevant for non-agricultural activity.

Actions to be taken by State Governments:

- (1) Formulate District plan for each District that fully utilizes resources available from all existing schemes, State or Central, including resources

at the district level from schemes such as BRGF and NREG. The District agricultural plan will include livestock and fishing and be integrated with minor irrigation projects, rural development works and with other schemes for water harvesting and conservation. Each State Government will set up appropriate unit(s) at District level for this purpose.

- (2) Prepare a State agricultural plan based on district plans aimed at achieving the State's agricultural growth objective, keeping in view the sustainable management of natural resources and technological possibilities in each agro-climatic region. Each State will ensure that the baseline share of agriculture in its total State Plan expenditure is at least maintained, and upon its doing so, it will be able to access the new ACA to meet the Central contribution to the expenditure on the agricultural plan beyond the base line.
- (3) Make special efforts to complete all projects taken up under AIBP without time and cost overrun and prioritize irrigation projects in consonance with their agriculture production targets. States will make special efforts to ensure better water management and enhance water use efficiency.
- (4) Accord the highest priority to seed production so that adequate supply of quality seeds of relevant major crops and fodder is available at reasonable prices and at the right time. This is necessary to improve seed replacement rates, which help reduce yield gaps. There should be close liaison between State Governments and State agricultural universities or ICAR institutions for ensuring production of seeds of varieties suitable for each agro climatic region. Public Private partnership between SAUs, State departments concerned and public sector for varietal development can be considered.
- (5) Undertake a major expansion and revamping of State agricultural extension systems. This will involve the State Agricultural Universities and Krishi Vigyan Kendras; and include support animal resources development, expansion of soil testing capacity in each district and facilities to test input quality. The public-private partnership (PPP) mode should be used wherever possible.

- (6) Expedite signing of the MOU (if not done so far) for early implementation of the Vaidyanathan Committee recommendations and set monitorable deadlines for meeting the commitments so that the co-operative credit structure can be revamped.
- (7) Encourage development of modern markets by completing the process of amending the APMC Act and notify the rules thereunder, and also encourage development of linkages to markets through a variety of instruments including co-operatives of farmers, contract farming and other means preferred by the States. The process of notifying rules under the amended APMC legislation should be completed during 2007-08.

Concrete proposals to implement these steps will be spelt out in details as quickly as possible both by the Central Government and by the State Government.

Statement II

Sources	Schemes	Ultimate irrigation Potential (in million hectares)
Surface Water	Major & Medium	
	irrigation	58.5
	Minor irrigation	17.4
Ground Water	Minor irrigation	64.0
	Total	139.9

Demand of Water

2902. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to State:

- (a) whether the demand for water is likely to increase to 813 BCM by 2010 and 1093 BCM by 2025;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the entire water potential by conventional means is likely to be developed by 2025;

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Union Government to explore entire water potential to meet the growing demand of water?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (d) As per the Report of the Standing Sub-Committee for 'Assessment of Availability and Requirement of Water for Diverse Uses in the Country', the total water requirement for various sectors has been projected to be of the order of 813 billion cubic metre (BCM) by the year 2010 and 1093 BCM by the year 2025. The projected requirements for various purposes are as under:

Sector	Water Demand (BCM) in the year	
	2010	2025
Irrigation	688	910
Drinking (incl. Livestock)	56	73
Industrial	12	23
Energy	5	15
Others	52	72
Total	813	1093

However, the National Commission for Integrated Water Resources Development Plan in its report has adopted a higher efficiency and has projected the estimates of total water requirement of 710 BCM by the year 2010 and 843 BCM by the year 2025.

Development of water resources projects for meeting the various requirements is an ongoing process. Measures for implementation of projects for creation of irrigation potential are undertaken by the respective State Governments which include creation of storages through major, medium and minor irrigation projects, restoration of water bodies, rain water harvesting, and adoption of better management practices etc. Government of India provides assistance to the State Governments through various schemes/programmes, such as Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP); Command Area Development and Water Management (CADWM) Programme; National Projects for Repair, Renovation and Restoration of Water Bodies directly linked to Agriculture etc. The Government of India also encourages rainwater harvesting and recharge to groundwater.

Purchase of Medicines for Hospitals

2903. SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the criteria for the purchase of medicines for armed forces hospitals;
- (b) whether there is any quality check on these purchases;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether medicines of only branded companies are purchased or of some local companies also;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) the criteria for empanelment of suppliers;
- (g) whether the bank account of suppliers and their standing in the market is ascertained;
- (h) the system of local purchase of medicines; and
- (i) the control over local purchase in small quantity?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A. K. ANTONY): (a) to (i) Procurement of medicines by the Directorate General Armed Forces Medical Services (DGAFMS) for the Armed Forces Hospitals is governed by the Defence Procurement Manual 2006 (DPM-2006). The eligibility criteria for the vendors to participate in DGAFMS tenders for purchase of medicines are as under:

- (i) Directorate General Quality Assurance (DGQA) Registration or Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) Certificate issued for the plant by the State/Central authorities duly supported by manufacturing licence, annual turnover of pharmaceutical products only of more than Rs.20 crores per year for the last three consecutive years, last three years statement of accounts duly audited by Chartered Accountant or original inventor of the molecule and Manufacturing & Marketing Certificate.
- (ii) For Imported drugs, World Health Organisation Good Manufacturing Practice (WHO GMP) Certificate/Certificate of Pharmaceutical Product (COPP), registration certificate for import of drug, licence to import drugs will be required along with Annual Turnover certificate and

Manufacturing/Marketing certificate of the foreign manufacturer.

The quality of medicines purchased is ensured by pre-supply testing by DGQA or by National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL) for the stores of value more than Rs.1.5 lakhs. The quality of stores of value less than Rs.1.5 lakhs is ensured by Post Lab Test of random samples by the purchaser. The quality of the foreign products is ensured by Drug Controller General of India (DCGI).

The procurement is based on the lowest price (LP) quoted by any firm who fulfills the eligibility criteria.

Commandants/Commanding Officers of hospitals and Depots follow the guidelines given in the Defence Procurement Manual-2006 for local purchase of medicines, within the financial powers delegated to them.

[Translation]

Pilotless Aircraft Lakshya

2904. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the pilotless aircraft Lakshya has been manufactured as per the requirements;
- (b) if so, the number of the said aircraft inducted for use of the Defence Services alongwith the cost of each of the aircraft;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to sell the said indigenous aircraft to other countries; and
- (d) the countries which have expressed interest in purchasing the Lakshya aircraft?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. So far 23 Pilotless Target Aircraft (PTA) Lakshya have been inducted into the Defence Services. The production cost of one aircraft is Rs.293.75 lakh.

(c) and (d) Now, some countries, like Singapore, Malaysia and Israel Navy have expressed interest for "paid demonstration" of the Lakshya aircraft as a target. We have already conducted a similar "paid demonstration" to Israel's Air Force during the year 2002.

[English]

**Proposals under Credit Guarantee
Fund Scheme**

2905. SHRI HARIBHAU RATHOD: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of applications and proposals received by the Union Government for providing loan and guarantee to the entrepreneurs for setting up of various micro, small and medium scale industries under the Credit Guarantee Fund Scheme in the country particularly in Maharashtra and Goa during each of the last three years and thereafter, State-wise;

(b) the number of applications approved and rejected during the said period and the reasons for rejection, State-wise; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government for clearance of such pending applications?

THE MINISTER OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) to (c) The State-wise number of applications received/approved by the Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for Micro and Small Enterprises (CGTMSE) for providing guarantee cover on credit facilities to the micro and small entrepreneurs in the country, including Maharashtra and Goa, under Credit Guarantee Fund Scheme during of the last three years and during 2007-08 (upto 31st July 2007) is given in the enclosed statement. No eligible application has been rejected by CGTMSE under the scheme. To enable early clearance of applications, the operations of the scheme have been computerised and made on-line using B 2 B e-business concept, i.e., business-to-business operations conducted through internet between two or more business partners.

Statement

*State/UT-wise details of proposals received/approved for guarantee cover under Credit Guarantee
Fund Scheme for Micro and Small Enterprises*

S.No.	State/UT	Number of proposals approved			
		2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08 (Upto 31.7.2007)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andman and Nicobar Islands	0	2	13	5
2.	Andhra Pradesh	327	1475	3323	470
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	2	22	105	3
4.	Assam	159	356	1252	237
5.	Bihar	89	344	1416	483
6.	Chandigarh	19	47	60	26
7.	Chhattisgarh	184	379	180	71
8.	Dadara and Nagar Haveli	7	1	4	1
9.	Daman and Diu	3	5	8	3
10.	Delhi	48	108	79	45
11.	Goa	16	52	69	20
12.	Gujarat	183	334	816	563
13.	Haryana	214	451	1085	430

1	2	3	4	5	6
14.	Himachal Pradesh	156	254	503	109
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	293	201	182	44
16.	Jharkhand	320	459	232	122
17.	Karnataka	737	1649	1748	779
18.	Kerala	2205	3459	3867	1554
19.	Madhya Pradesh	505	769	1038	352
20.	Maharashtra	246	518	447	179
21.	Manipur	1	48	24	0
22.	Meghalaya	5	12	226	7
23.	Mizoram	1	41	189	11
24.	Nagaland	1	8	44	26
25.	Orissa	363	707	2319	939
26.	Pondicherry	6	26	137	51
27.	Punjab	248	324	322	229
28.	Rajasthan	110	230	1457	1047
29.	Sikkim	19	14	21	8
30.	Tamilnadu	869	1713	3607	1306
31.	Tripura	9	43	73	58
32.	Uttar Pradesh	1368	1055	1109	438
33.	Uttaranchal	19	39	106	43
34.	West Bengal	794	1139	1396	352

*[Translation]***Coastal Terrorism**

2906. SHRI V.K. THUMMAR:

SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has assessed the rising air strike capability of LTTE which threatens the security of India in near future;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the security precautions taken or proposed to be taken to deal with any kind of eventuality, particularly in Southern region of the country;

(d) the steps taken along the vulnerable coastal area which is now being monitored by Central and State Intelligence Agencies;

(e) whether National Maritime Authority is going to set in place to deal with coastal terrorism; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY):

(a) to (f) Yes, Sir. Government has taken all

necessary steps to safeguard its territory from any air attack.

Necessary security measures are continuously reviewed, assessed and strengthened depending upon the exigencies of situation.

[English]

Preservation of Cattle

2907. SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme to preserve indigenous cattle breeds like Ongole cattle in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any cash and other incentives are being given to owners of elite registered cattle like Ongole cattle;

(d) if so, the details of assistance given to farmers in Andhra Pradesh;

(e) the aims and objectives of Central Herd Registration Scheme; and

(f) the steps proposed to be taken to encourage preservation of other Indian breeds like oxen, cows and other animals relating to dairy products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Central Sector Central Herd Registration Scheme is operational since 1979 in three districts of Andhra Pradesh to locate superior germplasm of Ongole cattle.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The sum of Rs.177450 and Rs.195750 was distributed as incentive prize money to 441 and 428 owners of qualified registered animals in Andhra Pradesh during the year 2005-06 and 2006-07, respectively.

(e) The aims and objectives of the Central Herd Registration Scheme are to locate and register superior

germplasm of selected indigenous cattle and buffalo breeds, propagate superior genetic stock, promote conservation, disseminate the information on registered animals, facilitate formation of breeders' associations and meeting the requirement of indigenous bulls for the breeding.

(f) For genetic up-gradation of bovine population, development and conservation of indigenous breeds in the country, a National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding (NPCBB) is being implemented since October, 2000. To consolidate the gains made in Phase-I, Phase-II of NPCBB has been initiated from December, 2006 with total allocation of Rs.775.87 crore for further five years. One of the major objectives of Phase-II is to undertake bull production programme of indigenous cattle and buffalo breeds for the breeding purposes. The Central Cattle Development Organizations, which includes seven Central Cattle Breeding Farms, one Central Frozen Semen Production and Training Institute and four Central Herd Registration units are also operational in different regions of the country for seeking production of genetically superior breed of bull calves, good quality frozen semen and identification of location of superior germplasm of cattle and buffaloes to meet the requirement of bulls and frozen semen of some of the important indigenous breeds in the country.

Violation of Indian Airspace

2908. SHRI HITEN BARMAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether violation of Indian airspace by some countries has been reported;

(b) if so, the details of violations of airspace reported during the last two years; and

(c) the action contemplated by the Government to check such violation?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A total number of 80 cases of violation of Indian airspace by the aircraft from other countries were reported during past two years i.e. from August, 2005 to July, 2007. Country wise details are as under:

Name of Country	Number of violations
Pakistan	73*
Bangladesh	03
China	01
Nepal	03

*A substantial number of these incidents of violations were in the earth quake affected area by Pakistan and United Nations helicopters operating from Pakistan probably while undertaking relief operations.

(c) The matter is taken up with the concerned country through diplomatic channel as per established procedure.

Empanelment of Private Hospitals for Armed Forces

2909. SHRI SUBRATA BOSE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to link army hospitals with private hospitals so as to provide efficient medical service to defence personnel;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether army personnel are eligible for medical insurance cover; and

(d) if so, the ailments for which the insurance cover is available and proposal, if any, to extend it to other ailments?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY):
(a) and (b) There is no proposal to link Army hospitals to private hospitals.

(c) and (d) There is no medical insurance cover for Army personnel. However Serving Army personnel are provided comprehensive medical cover free of cost.

Committee for Spectrum Valuation

2910. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE:
SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up a Committee for Spectrum Valuation and Pricing;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the composition of the committee;

(c) the time by which report is likely to be submitted to the Union Government;

(d) whether the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology has asked the Department of Telecom (DOT) to introduce incentives in the pricing mechanism for the efficient use of spectrum;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps taken/being taken by the Department of Telecom in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (f) Yes, Sir. A Committee has been constituted in Department of Telecom to examine the issue of spectrum valuation/pricing taking into account the existing practices and other relevant aspects and to recommend an appropriate/fair valuation/pricing of spectrum to ensure the optimum use of this scarce resource. The Committee has not submitted its report.

Laying of Optical Fibre Cable

2911. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether all the telephone exchanges in the country have Optical Fibre Cable (OFC);

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and location-wise;

(c) the amount allocated for laying Optical Fibre Cable for providing telephones on demand during the last three years; and

(d) the area likely to be covered in kms by laying Optical Fibre Cable in the country specially in Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) Sir, all the main exchanges and Remote Switching Units (RSUs) of Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (operating in the metro areas of Delhi and Mumbai) are connected on

Optical Fibre Cable (OFC). In addition, MTNL has also laid Fibre Cable in the access network for Digital Loop Carriers (DLC) and Digital Subscriber Line Access Multiplexer (DSLAM).

In BSNL, as on date, 96% telephone exchanges in the country have Optical Fibre Cable. State-wise details are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) Total amount allocated by BSNL for laying OFC for providing telephones on demand during the 3 years is as follows;

Year	Amount Allocated by BSNL (Rs. In Crores)
2005-06	2553.71
2006-07	4026.98
2007-08	3302.13

In MTNL, there is no waiting list for telephone connections and no case is pending for want of OFC. However, MTNL is laying cable to augment existing capacities to meet the growing traffic demand.

(d) Detail of area covered/likely to be covered (in Kms) by BSNL by laying Optical Fibre Cable in the country during 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08 are given below:

	2005-06 (Km)	2006-07 (Km)	2007-08 (Km)
Whole of Country	18256.61	27100.00	12933.81
Uttar Pradesh	2027.80	2851.91	1992.35
Maharashtra	1068.53	1535.09	910.90

Statement

*Status of Telephone Exchanges on Reliable Media
As on Date 31.07.2007*

Sl. No.	Circle/District	Total Number of Exchanges	Exchanges Connected on OFC Systems
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3699	3518
2.	Assam	597	575

1	2	3	4
3.	Bihar	1209	1172
4.	Jharkhand	477	477
5.	Gujarat	3218	3218
6.	Haryana	1211	1208
7.	Himachal Pradesh	1005	866
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	370	305
9.	Karnataka	2723	2722
10.	Kerala	1235	1221
11.	Madhya Pradesh	2791	2591
12.	Chhattisgarh	628	546
13.	Maharashtra and Goa	4947	4784
14.	North East-I	327	235
15.	North East-II	221	126
16.	Orissa	1155	1154
17.	Punjab	1551	1551
18.	Rajasthan	2338	2287
19.	Tamilnadu	2080	2008
20.	Chennai Telephones	334	334
21.	Uttar Pradesh (E)	2300	2175
22.	Uttar Pradesh (W)	957	916
23.	Uttaranchal	454	411
24.	West Bengal and Sikkim	1384	1362
25.	Kolkata Telephones	562	562
26.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	49	38
Total		37822	36362

National Agriculture Policy

2912. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to revise the National Agriculture Policy; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) There is no proposal to revise the National Agriculture Policy. However, the National Commission on Farmers has recommended a Revised Draft National Policy for Farmers which is under active consideration of the Government.

**Involvement of Service Hqrs. in
Decision-making**

2913. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Standing Committee on Defence (2006-2007) in their Twenty-second Report (14th Lok Sabha) recommended that the Service Headquarters may be involved in decision-making process; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) and (b) Standing Committee on Defence (14th Lok Sabha) 2006-07, has made the following observations related to involvement of Service Headquarters in decision making in para 2.6 of its 22nd Report which reads as follows:

"Para 2.6: The Committee note that the Group of Ministers (GoM) had recommended that there was a need to progressively decentralize decision making and delegate powers to the Service Headquarters, wherever feasible. This process was expected to ensure greater speed, higher levels of efficiency and accountability. The Committee are informed that the Ministry had taken a number of steps to involve Service Headquarters actively in decision making and had delegated financial and administrative powers to them. The Committee have been informed that financial powers delegated to the Service were enhanced in 2002 and again in 2006. The powers to incur expenditure under the capital head upto Rs. 10 crores have been delegated to the Vice-Chiefs for the first time in 2006."

Against the backdrop of observations made in para 2.6, the Standing Committee has made certain recommendations regarding further delegation of powers to Services, which are under consideration. However, it

is added that the decision making in Ministry of Defence, especially in the context of procurement is based on a system of greater interaction of Service Headquarters with Ministry of Defence. There has been a consistent approach to delegate more financial powers to Service Headquarters facilitating greater decentralization of decision-making to Services Headquarters. In other areas also due consideration of the views of Service Headquarters is given while assessing or coming to a decision.

[Translation]

Land Erosion

2914. PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:
SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian territory is being lost to various countries including Nepal as a result of land erosion;

(b) if so, the total area India has lost as a result thereof so far;

(c) the remedial measures contemplated by the Government to prevent the land erosion;

(d) whether consultations were held with the neighbouring countries particularly Nepal; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (e) Land erosion along the rivers is a natural phenomenon and occurs especially in alluvial plains. Due to erosion bank lines of the river keep moving on either side at different places. Being a continuous process, no account is available on land loss from the state governments.

Flood Management being State subject, the flood control schemes are planned, investigated and implemented by the State Governments with their own funds. The assistance rendered by the Central Government is technical, catalytic and promotional in nature. However, the Central Government has been providing financial assistance to the flood affected States under various plan schemes in order to enable them to take up flood management works in critical areas.

Consultations are being held regularly with neighboring countries on land erosion problem, particularly in Nepal. A Standing Committee on Inundation Problem (SCIP) between India and Nepal was setup in 1986 for dealing the problem. Last meeting of the committee was held from 30th August-1st September, 2006 at Patna.

[English]

Occupational Wage Survey

2915. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether large number of labourers/child labourers are engaged in plantation industries in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government has taken any step to identify and to rehabilitate them;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the number of plantation industries covered under the Occupational Wage Survey (OWS); and

(f) the steps taken to bring more industries under OWS to improve the livelihood of the labourers/child labourers who are engaged in plantation industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) and (b) No, Sir. As per the results of Sixth Round of Occupational Wage Survey (OWS) conducted during June 2005 to March 2006, out of the total employment of 9.78 lakh, in three Plantation Industries viz. Coffee Plantation, Rubber Plantation and Tea Plantations, the incidence of child labour is negligible.

(c) and (d) Under the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986, employment of children in Plantations is not prohibited. Considering the magnitude of the problem, Government is following a sequential approach of rehabilitating children working in hazardous occupations first.

(e) Three plantation industries viz. Coffee Plantation, Rubber Plantation and Tea Plantations are covered under the Occupational Wage Survey.

(f) These three Plantations cover almost 99% employment of the entire plantation sector. In view of this, there is no need to increase the coverage of OWS.

[Translation]

Network of NIC

2916. SHRI RAGHUVeer SINGH KOSHAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the network of National Informatics Centre has been established in the country;

(b) if so, the number of centres connected with National Informatics Centre, State-wise, Location-wise;

(c) the details of the information made available by these centres, State-wise, Location-wise;

(d) whether the aforesaid information is updated according to the consecutive changes; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Information is given in the enclosed statement.

(c) to (e) National Informatics Centre (NIC) is providing backbone e-governance network (NICNET) and technical support to the Central Government Departments, States, UTs and District Administrations in the country for Internet, e-mail, file transfer, database development, e-Governance applications development, office automation, capacity building, consultancy, hosting and databases access. The technical support is provided in the formulation, development, implementation and maintenance of projects of above user departments. Training is provided to the Government employees and officers on a regular basis to enable them to use the IT based systems and e-governance applications. It is the user departments who own the projects with regards to its implementation, updation and day-to-day operationalisation. The major e-governance applications implemented/supported by NIC are given below:

- Passport Management System
- India Portal

- Land Records Computerization
 - e-Procurement
 - Web enabled services
 - Community Information Centre (CIC)
 - AGMARKNET (Agriculture Markets Network)
 - COMPACT/PAO 2000
 - Computerization of Courts
 - e-Lekha
 - Property Registration System
 - NAIDISHA
 - Customs (Computerization of Customs and EDI Services)
 - CIPA (Common Integrated Police Application)
 - PGRAMS (Public Grievance Redress & Monitoring System)
 - National Panchayat Portal
 - National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme 2005
 - Lok Vani
 - Integrated System for Rural Drinking Water-Computerization
 - Web Services for the Benefits of Citizens
 - VAT Computerization
 - DC* Suite
 - Computerized Rural Information Systems Project
 - (i) Rural Soft (ii) Rural Bazar (iii) Priasoft
 - (iv) Open eNRICH
 - Treasury Computerization
 - Stamina (Sales Tax Administration Management)
 - Visa Issuance System Information Network Aided System
- These applications have been implemented in various States/UTs/Districts as per their priority and local requirements. More details are available on NIC Website: <http://offerings.nic.in>.

Statement*Number of Centres connected with NIC State-wise & Location-wise*

Name of State/UT	Name of Districts	Total
1	2	3
Andaman and Nicobar (UT)	Andaman (3), Nicobar (1)	4
Andhra Pradesh	Adilabad (1), Anantapur (2), Chittoor (1), Cuddapah (1), East Godavari (2), Eluru (West Godavari)(L), Guntur (1), Hyderabad (25), Karimnagar (1), Khammam (2), Kuppam (1), Kurnool (1), Machilipatnam (Krishna)(1), Mahbubnagar (1), Nalgonda (1), Nellore (1), Nizamabad (1), Ongole (Prakasam)(0), Rangareddy(I), Sangareddy (Medak)(5), Secundrabad(I), Srikakulam (1), Tirupati (2), Vijayawada(I), Vishakhapatnam (4), Vizianagaram (1) Warangal (1)	61
Arunachal Pradesh	Anini (Dibang Valley)(8), Along (West Siang)(14), Aniniring (Lower Dibang Valley)(0), Anjaw (Hawai)(L), Bomdila (West Kameng)(7), Changlang (6), Daporiji (Upper Subansiri)(9), Itanagar(papumpare) (62), Khonsa (Tirap)(9), Kurung Kumey (Koloriang)(9), Pasighat (East Siang)(12), Seppa (East Kameng)(7), Tawang (5), Tezu (Lohit)(7), Upper Siang (Yingkiong) (7), Ziro (Lower Subansiri)(6)	169
Assam	Barpeta (14), Bongaigaon (8), Dhemaji (6), Dhubri (15), Dibrugarh (9), Diphu (Karbi Anglong)(14), Goalparah (8), Golaghat (11), Guwahati (45), Haflong (North Cachar Hills)(10), Hailikandi (6), Jorhat (11), Kamrup Metro(32), Karimganj (8), Kokrajhar (8), Lakhimpur (11), Mangaldoi (Darrang)(13), Marigaon (7), Nagaon (19), Nalbari (13), Sibsagar (12), Silchar (Cachar)(17), Tezpur (Sonitpur)(18), Tinsukia (10)	325

1	2	3
Bihar	Arah (Buxar) (1), Arraria (1), Arwl(2), Aurangabad (2), Banka (1), Begusarai (1), Bettiah (1), Bhagalpur (1), Bhojpur (1), Bhubhua (1), Chapra (Saran) (1), Darbhanga (1), Gaya (1), Gopalganj (1), Hajipur (Vaishali)(L), Jahanabad (1), Jamui (1), Katihar (1), Khagaria (1), Kishanganj 1, Lakhisarai (1), Madhepura (1), Madhubani (1), Mothihari (3), Munger 1, Muzaffarpur (1), Nalanda (1), Nawada (1), Patna (25), Purnea (1), Saharsa (1), Samastipur (2), Sasaram (1), Seohar (1), Shekhpura (1), Sitamarhi (1), Siwan (1), Supaul (1)	67
Chandigarh (UT)	Chandigarh (40)	40
Chhattisgarh	Ambikapur (Sarguja)(28), Bastar (20), Bilaspur (22), Dantewada (18), Dhamtari (7), Durg (20), Janjgir (Champ A) (14), Jashpur (13), Kanker (13), Kawardha (7), Korba (14), Korla (12), Mahasamund (9), Raigarh (18), Raipur (Distt.) (56), Rajnandgaon (19)	290
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	Dadra and Nagar Haveli District (2)	2
Daman and Diu(UT)	Daman (2), Diu (1)	3
Delhi State Unit	Central Delhi(95), D C Office East Delhi (4), Jamnagar House (2), Kapashera (3), Khanjawala (4), Nand Nagari (1), Rampura (2), South Delhi Distt (2), Tis Hazari North (8)	121
Goa	North Goa (15), South Goa(margoa) (2)	17
Gujarat	Ahmadabad (5), Ahwa (Dang) (1), Amreli (1), Anand (1), Baharuch (1), Bhavnagar (1), Bhuj (5), Dahod (1), Gandhi Nagar (4), Godhra (1), Himatnagar (1), Jamnagar (1), Junagadh (1), Kheda (1), Mahesana (2), Narmada (1), Navsari (1), Palampur (1), Pat An (1), Porbander (1), Rajkot (2), Surat (2), Surendranagar (1), Vadadora (3), Valsad (1)	41
Himachal Pradesh	Bilaspur (1), Chamba (2), Dharamsala (Kangra) (1), Hamirpur (1), Keylong (Lahaul Spiti)(4), Kinnaur (1), Kullu (2), Mandi (1), Nahan (Sirmour) (1), Shimla (11), Solan (1), Una (1)	27
Haryana	Ambala (1), Bhiwani (1), Faridabad (4), Fatehabad (1), Gurgaon (4), Hisar (2), Jhajjar (1), Jind (1), Kaithal (1), Karnal (1), Kurukshetra (1), Mahendragarg (Narnaul) (1), Nuh (Mewat) (0), Panchquila (1), Panipat (2), Rewari (1), Rohtak (1), Sirsa (1), Sonapat (1), Yamuna Nagar (1)	27
Jammu and Kashmir	Anatnag (15), Badgam (9), Baramula (16), Doda (18), Jammu (29), Kargil (12), Kathua (14), Kupwara (12), Leh (25), Poonch (7), Pulwama (7), Rajauri (9), Srinagar (16), Udhampur (12)	201
Jharkhand	Bokaro (3), Chaibasa (West Singhbhum) (2), Chatra (1), Deoghar (1), Dhanbad (2), Dumka (1), East Singhbhum (Tata Nagar) (1), Garhwa (1), Siridih (1), Godda (2), Gumla (1), Hazaribagh (2), Jamtara (1), Koderma (1), Latehar (1), Lohardagga (1), Pakur (1), Palamu (1), Ranchi (11), Sahebganj (1), Saraikela Kharsawan (1), Simdega (1)	38
Karnataka	Bagalkot(yadgir) (1), Bangalore (Urban)(34), Bangalore (Rural)(0), Belgaum (1), Bellary (1), Bider (1), Bijapur (1), Chamaraajnagar (1),	61

1	2	3
	Chikmagalur (1), Chitradurga (1), Davanagere (1), Dharwad (2), Gadag (1), Gulbarga (1), Hassan (1), Haveri (1), Karwar (1), Kolar (2), Koppal (1), Mandya (1), Mangalore (1), Medikari (1), Mysore (1), Raichur (1), Shimoga (1), Tumkur (1), Udipi (1)	
Kerala	Alappuzha(alleppey) (1), Ernakulam (13), Idukki (1), Kannur(1), Kasargod (1), Kollam (1), Kottayam (1), Kozhikode (5), Malappuram (1), Palakkad (1), Pathanamthitta (1), Thiruvananthapuram(trivandrum)(13), Thrissur (1), Wayanad (1)	42
Lakshadweep	Kavarathi (2), Lakshadweep Island(22), Minicoy (1)	25
Madhya Pradesh	Anuppur(2), Ashok Nagar(1), Balaghat (1), Barwani (1), Betul (1), Bhind (1), Bhopal (20), Burhanpur(1), Ohhatrapur (1), Chhindware (1), Damoh (1), Detia (1), Dewas (1), Dhar (1), Dindori (2), Guna (1), Gwalior (3), Harda (1), Hoshangabad (2), Indore (4), Jabalpur (5), Jhabua (1), Katni (1), Khandwa (1), Khargaon (1), Mandla (1), Mandsaur (1), Morena (1), Narasimhapur (1), Neemuch (1), Panna (1), Raisen (1), Rajgarh (1), Ratlam (1), Rewa (1), Sagar (1), Satna (1), Sehore (2), Seoni (1), Shajapur (1), Shehdol (2), Sheopur(1), Shivpuri (1), Sidhi (3), Tikamgarh (1), Ujjain (1), Umeria (1), Vidisha (1)	83
Maharashtra	Ahmadnagar (2), Akola (4), Amravathi (3), Aurangabad (3), Bandra (1), Beed (2), Bhandara (2), Buldana (3), Chandrapur (3), Dhule (2), Gadchiroli (2), Gondia (2), Hingoli (2), Jalgaon (2), Jalna (2), Kolhapur (2), Latur (2), Mumbai (27), Nagpur (1 1), Nanded (2), Nandurbar (2), Nasik (4), Osmanabad (2), Parbhani (4), Pune (12), Raigarh (2), Ratnagiri (2), Sangli (2), Satara (3), Sindhudurg (2), Solapur (2), Thane (2), Wardha (2), Washim (2), Yavatmal (2)	124
Manipur	Bishnupur (6), Chandel (6), Churachandpur (11), East Imphal (37), Senapati (12), Tamenglong (7), Thoubal (5), Ukhrul (9), West Imphal (54)	147
Meghalaya	Jowai (Jantia Hills)(10), Nongpho(ri-bhoi) (7), Nongstoin (West Khasi Hills (8), Shillong (East Khasi Hills)(50), South Garo Hills (Baghmagra)(6), Tura (West Garo Hills)(14), Williamnagar (East Garo Hills)(10)	105
Mizoram	Aizawal (100), Champhai (6), Chhimituipui(1), Kolasib (10), Lawngtlai(8), Lunglei (7), Mamit(8), Saiha (3)	143
Nagaland	Dimapur (7), Kohima (58), Mokokchung (9), Mon (9), Phek (9), Tuensang (17), Wokha (8), Zunheboto (9)	126
Orissa	Angul (10), Balasore (14), Bargarh (14), Baripada (Mayurbhanj)(28), Berhampur (Ganjam)(27), Bhadrak (9), Bolangir (17), Boudh (5), Chatrapur (0), Cuttack (26), Deogarh (5), Dhenkanal (11), Gajapati (9), Agatsinghpur (11), Jaipur (12), Jharsuguda (7), Kalahandi (15), Kendrapara (12), Keonjhar (16), Khurda (Bhubaneswar)(31), Koraput (16), Malkangiri (9), Navrangpur (12), Nayagarh (10), Nuapada (7), Phulbani (Kandhamal)(14), Puri (13), Rayaguda (13), Sambalpur (13), Sonepur (8), Sundergarh (21)	415
Puducherry	Karaikal (2), Mahe (1), Puducherry(13), Yanam (1)	17

1	2	3
Punjab	Amritsar (8), Bhatinda (1), Faridkot (1), Fatehgarh Sahib (1), Ferozepur (1), Gurdaspur (1), Hoshiarpur (1), Jalandhar (1), Kapurthala (1), Ludhiana (2), Mansa (2), Moga (1), Mukatsar (1), Navanshar (1), Patiala 1), Ropar (2), Sangrur (1)	27
Rajasthan	Ajmer (3), Alwar (1), Bansware (1), Baran (1), Barmer (3), Bharatpur (1), Bhilwarwa (1), Bikaner (1), Bundi (1), Chittaurgarh (1), Churu (1), Dausa 1), Dholpur (1), Dungarpur (1), Hanumangarh (1), Jaipur (18), Jaisalmer 1), Jalor (1), Jhalawar (1), Jhunihunum (1), Jodhpur (5), Karoli (1), Kota 1), Nagaur (1), Pali (1), Rajsamund (1), Sawai Madhapur (1), Sikar (1), Sirohi (1), Sriganganagar (1), Tonk (1), Udaipur (1)	57
Sikkim	East District Sikkim (Gangtok)(107), Gyalshing (West District)(13), Mangan (North District)(9), Namchi (South District)(14)	143
Tamilnadu	Ariyalur(1), Chennai (35), Coimbatore (3), Cuddalore (2), Dharmapuri (1), Dindugal (1), Erode (1), Kanchipuram (3), Kanyakumari (2), Karur (1), Krishnagiri Dist (1), Madurai (4), Nagapattinam (1), Namakkal (1), Milgiris(2), Perambalur (1), Pudukottai (1), Ramanathapuram (2), Salem 1), Sivaganga (1), Thanjavur (1), Theni(1), Thiruvallur (1), Fhiruv Annamalai (1), Thiruv Arur (1), Tiruchirappalli(1), Tuticorin Thoothkudi Dist)(1), Vellore (1), Viluppuram(1), Virudhunagar (1)	75
Tripura	Agartala (90), Dhalai (10), North Tripura (12), Udaipur (17)	129
Uttar Pradesh	Agra (1), Aligarh (3), Allahabad (7), Ambedkar Nagar (1), Auriya (1), Azamgarh (1), Baghpat (1), Bahraich (1), Ballia (1), Balrampur (1), Banda (1), bara Banki (1), Bareilly (4), Basti (Sant Kabir Nagar) (1), Bhadohi (1), Bijnor (1), Budaun (1), Bulandshahr (1), Chandrauli (1), Chitrakoot (10, Deoria (1), Etah (1), Etawah (1), Faizabad (1), Fatehpur (1), Firozabar (1), Gautam Budh Nagar (3), Ghaziabad (4), Ghazipur (1), Gonda (1), Gorakhpur (2), Hamirpur (1), Hardoi (1), Jalaun (1), Jaunpur (1), Jhansi (1), Jyoti Phole Nagar (Amroha) (1), Kannauj (1), Kanpur Urban (4), Kaushambi (1), Kushi Nagar (Padrauna) (1), Lakhimpur Kheri (1), Lalitpur (1), Lucknow (3), Mahamaya Nagar (Hathras) (1), Maharajganj (2), Mahoba (1), Mainpuri (1), Mathura (2), Mau Nath Bhajan (Mau) (1), Meerut (3), Mirzapur (1), Moradabad (2), Muzaffarnagar (1), Pilibhit (1), Pratapgarh (1), Rae Bareilly (1), Rampur (1), Saharanpur (1), Sant Ravidas Nagar (1), Shahjahanpur (1), Shaooji Maharajnagar (1), Shravasti (1), Siddharth Nagar (1), Sitapur (1), Sonebhadra (1), Sultanpur (2), Unnao (1), Varanasi (5)	138
Uttaranchal	Almora (4), Bageshwar (1), Chamoli (1), Champawat (1), Dehradun (11), Haridwar (4), Nainital (7), Pauri Garhwal (3), Pithoragarh (1), Rudrapryag (1), Tehri Garhwal (1), Udham Singh Nagar (1), Uttarkashi (1)	37
West Bengal	Alipore (24 South parganas) (1), balutghat (1), Bankura (1), Barasat (24 North parganas) (1), Berhaimpore (Murshidabad) (2), Burdwan (3), Calcutta (35), Chinsurah (Hooghly) (1), Cooch Behar (1), Darjiling (1), Dinajpur Dakshin (1), Dinajpur Uttar (1), English Bazar (Maldah) (1), Howrah (1), Jalpaiguri (1), Krishna Nagar (Nadia) (1), Midinipur (1), Puruliya (1), Siliguri (1).	56

*[English]***Losses in Postal Department**

2917. SHRI PRATIK P. PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Department of Posts has incurred losses due to faulty agreement with U.A.E.;

(b) if so, the losses incurred as a result thereof;

(c) whether any sort of statutory action has been taken against the officials responsible in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (d) In the Performance Review Report for the year 2006-07, Audit has stated that in December, 2001 Department of Posts signed an operational agreement for Express Parcel Service with UAE (Emirates Post) and further stated that as a result of lacunae in the MOU, Department of Posts suffered a loss of Rs. 9.15 crores as calculated by Audit. This has not been accepted by Department of Posts. Department did notice certain lapses on the part of two officers one of whom has already retired on superannuation. Disciplinary proceedings were initiated against both. Disciplinary Authority after considering the report of Inquiry Officer and the evidence adduced during the inquiry dropped the proceedings against one of the charged Officers. Proceedings against the retired officer are not yet concluded.

Cotton Cultivation

2918. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the area under cultivation of cotton in the country during the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(b) the estimated production of cotton during the ensuing season;

(c) the unsold stocks of cotton held by major cotton institutions in the country;

(d) whether the forward deals for cotton to be delivered during the ensuing cotton season have started; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) The State-wise area under cultivation of cotton in the country during the last three years and the current year is given in the enclosed statement.

(b) Sowing of cotton for the agriculture year 2007-08 is going on. The 1st advance estimates of production of cotton would be known in September 2007.

(c) The unsold stocks of cotton held by two major cotton institutions in the country, i.e., Cotton Corporation of India and Maharashtra State Co-operative Cotton Growers' Marketing Federation stood at about 0.30 lakh bales and 1.00 lakh bales respectively as on 29th August 2007.

(d) and (e) Government agencies do not sell cotton through forward deals.

Statement*Estimates of Area under Cotton from 2004-05 to 2007-08*

States	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07*	2007-08\$
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh	11.78	10.33	9.72	8.68
Assam	0.01	0.01	0.01	#
Chhattisgarh	0.01	0.00	#	#

1	2	3	4	5
Gujarat	19.06	19.06	23.90	24.85
Haryana	6.21	5.83	5.30	4.78
Himachal Pradesh	Negligible	Negligible	#	#
Karnataka	5.21	4.13	3.75	1.67
Kerala	0.03	0.03	0.02	#
Madhya Pradesh	5.76	6.20	6.39	5.14
Maharashtra	28.40	28.75	30.70	31.70
Meghalaya	0.07	0.07	#	#
Mizoram	0.01	Negligible	#	#
Nagaland	0.02	0.01	#	#
Orissa	0.46	0.57	0.60	#
Punjab	5.09	5.57	6.07	6.48
Rajasthan	4.38	4.72	3.50	3.50
Tamilnadu	1.29	1.41	1.22	0.22
Tripura	0.01	0.01	#	#
Uttar Pradesh	0.05	0.04	0.05	#
West Bengal	0.02	0.02	0.08	#
Pondicherry	0.01	Negligible	#	#
Others	NA	NA	0.11	0.64
All India	87.87	86.77	91.42	87.66

*4th advance estimates released on 19.07.2007

\$As reported in the weekly Crop Weather Watch Group meeting held on 24.08.2007

Included in others.

NA: Not Applicable

Funding Pattern of Indus Project

2919. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the scheme of INDUS Project has been launched for preventing and eliminating child labour in certain identified industries in some States;

(b) if so, the details of the funding pattern of the scheme;

(c) the details of the assistance received under this scheme from United States (US) during each of the last three years; and

(d) the extent to which this scheme is effective to prevent and eliminate child labour in the identified States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) INDUS Projects has a total budget of US \$ 40 million with an equal contribution of Government of India

and US Department of Labour (USDOL). Out of US \$ 20 million contribution of Government of India, US \$ 13 million would be contributed by Ministry of Labour & Employment and US \$ 7 million by the Department of School Education & Literacy, Ministry of Human Resource Development.

(c) The expenditure on the project from USDOL funds incurred during the last three years is as follows:

Sl. No.	Year	Expenditure incurred in US \$
1.	2004	1,468,787
2.	2005	4,491,606
3.	2006	4,506,840

(d) Under the scheme, so far, 92,572 children have been withdrawn from work and rehabilitated through transitional education, public education and vocational training.

Land-share Companies of Farmers

2920. SHRI K.S. RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has initiated any scheme to allow farmers to form land-share companies in collaboration with the corporates;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the benefits likely to accrue therefrom alongwith the guidelines issued in this regard;

(c) the steps taken to fully operationalise the said scheme; and

(d) the provision made to protect the interest of petty farmers from foul play of the corporate sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Government has no scheme to allow farmers to form land-share companies in collaboration with the corporates. However, Ministry of Agriculture is promoting contract farming in the country, in which corporate agencies or others enter into agreement of purchase of agricultural produce with the producers.

(b) to (d) In order to put required system in place for contract farming, suitable provisions have been included in the Model Agricultural Produce Market Committee (APMC) Act formulated by the Ministry of Agriculture in 2003 and circulated to the State Governments for considering suitable amendments in their concerned Act by adopting those provisions. The Model Act provided for the registration of contract farming sponsors and recording of contract farming agreements with the APMC or a prescribed authority under the Act, protection of title or rights of the farmers over the land under such contracts, dispute settlement mechanism and a model draft agreement suggesting various terms and conditions.

The model act circulated by the Ministry is suggestive in nature, and, since agriculture is State's subject, it for the State Governments to decide on the implementation on the contract farming arrangements in their State.

Additional Allocation for Festivals

2921. SHRI HARIBHAU RATHOD:
SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any policy for allocation of additional quota of foodgrains and other essential commodities to the States for distribution under Public Distribution System (PDS) during the festival season;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has received requests for allocation of additional quota under PDS in view of the rising prices and the ensuing festival season;

(d) if so, the detail is thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(e) the time by which the additional quota is likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (e) The commodity-wise details are as follows:

- (i) **FOODGRAINS:** Besides Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), the Government makes additional allocations for festivals, natural calamities etc. at Economic Cost or Open Market Sales Scheme (Domestic) rates, whichever is Less.

Requests have been received for additional allocation under TPDS from several States, details of which are given in the enclosed statement-I. Keeping in view the requests received from the States/UTs., from time to time, to check the prices of foodgrains in the open market and for festivals, the Government has made adhoc/additional allocations of wheat for the APL category under TPDS, per month from September, 2006 to July, 2007 as per the details given in the enclosed statement-II.

Requests for release of additional rice or wheat are considered as and when received.

- (ii) **LEVY SUGAR:** A quantity of 1.00 lakh tons of levy Sugar per annum is earmarked for allotment as fixed annual festival quota to the States, which is allotted to the State Governments/UTs. in the months of their choice as per the schedule. Statement-III Showing state-wise fixed annual festival quota is enclosed.

- (iii) **KEROSENE:** Allocation of PDS kerosene is made by the Government to different States/ Union Territories (UTs) on a quarterly basis for distribution under Public Distribution System (PDS). Further distribution within the States/UTs through their PDS network is done by the concerned State/UT Governments. Additional allocation is made to meet the emergent requirement on account of natural calamities such as flood, draught, earthquake, etc. However, no additional allocation is made for festival seasons. No request for additional allocation of PDS Kerosene for festival seasons has been received from any State/UT.

Statement I

States/UTs from Which Requests Have Been Received for Additional Allocation of Foodgrains Under TPDS

Sl.No.	Name of States/UTs
1	2
1.	Andhra Pradesh
2.	Arunachal Pradesh

1	2
3.	Assam
4.	Bihar
5.	Chhattisgarh
6.	Goa
7.	Gujarat
8.	Himachal Pradesh
9.	Jammu and Kashmir
10.	Kerala
11.	Madhya Pradesh
12.	Manipur
13.	Meghalaya
14.	Mizoram
15.	Nagaland
16.	Orissa
17.	Punjab
18.	Rajasthan
19.	Sikkim
20.	Tamilnadu
21.	Tripura
22.	Uttarakhand
23.	Uttar Pradesh
24.	West Bengal
25.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands
26.	Chandigarh
27.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli
28.	Lakshadweep

Statement II

Additional Allocation of wheat to States and UTs under APL Category for the Months from September 2006 to July 2007

Sl. No.	States	Sept., 2006	Oct., 2006	Nov., 2006	Dec., 2006	Jan, 2007-March, 2007 (Per Month)	April-July, 2007 (Per Month)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4000	4000	4000	4000	4000	4000
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	300	300	300	300	300	300
3.	Assam	4000	4000	3000	3000	3000	3000
4.	Bihar	4000	4000	2000	2000	2000	2000
5.	Chhattisgarh	3000	3000	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
6.	Delhi	8000	8000	10000	10000	10000	5000
7.	Goa	500	500	500	500	500	500
8.	Gujarat	5000	5000	5000	5000	5000	5000
9.	Haryana	2500	2500	1500	1500	1500	1500
10.	Himachal Pradesh	3500	3500	3500	3500	6500	6500
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	5000	5000	5000	5000	5000	5000
12.	Jharkhand	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000
13.	Karnataka	4000	5000	5000	5000	5000	5000
14.	Kerala*	5000	6000	8000	8000	8000	8000
15.	Madhya Pradesh	5000	5000	5000	5000	5000	5000
16.	Maharashtra	5000	6000	10000	10000	10000	10000
17.	Manipur	300	300	300	300	300	300
18.	Meghalaya	300	300	300	300	300	300
19.	Mizoram	300	300	300	300	300	300
20.	Nagaland	300	300	300	300	300	300
21.	Orissa	4000	5000	4000	4000	4000	4000
22.	Punjab	2500	2500	2500	2000	12000	3000
23.	Rajasthan	6000	6000	6000	6000	6000	6000
24.	Sikkim	300	300	300	300	300	300
25.	Tamilnadu	4000	5000	5000	5000	6250	6250

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
26.	Tripura	800	800	800	800	800	800
27.	Uttar Pradesh	5000	5000	5000	5000	5000	5000
28.	Uttarakhand	5000	5000	5000	5000	10000	5000
29.	West Bengal	10000	5000	5000	5000	5000	5000
30.	Andman and Nicobar Islands	100	100	100	300	300	300
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	50	50	50	50	50	50
32.	Pondicherry	100	100	150	150	150	150
33.	Chandigarh	50	50	50	50	50	50
34.	Lakshadweep	50	50	NIL	50	50	50
35.	Daman and Diu	50	50	50	50	50	50
Total		100000	100000	100000	99750	119000	100000

*An additional allocation of 21,000 Tons of rice has been made for the state of Kerala for Onam festival in August, 2007.

Statement III

Month-wise and State-wise festival quota for levy sugar

Sl. No.	States	Total Festival Quota	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
1.	Assam	2896.00	724.0			724.0						724.0	724.0	
2.	Bihar	7527.0	2240.0			725.0	745.0					1895.0	1902.0	
3.	Jharkhand	2551.0	760.0			255.0	255.0					640.0	641.0	
4.	Sikkim	50.0										25.0	25.0	
5.	Meghalaya	200.0										100.0	100.0	
6.	Mizoram	78.0										26.0		52.0
7.	Orissa	3730.0		1000.0					865.0		1865.0			
8.	West Bengal	7796.0										7796.0		
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	868.0		434.0								434.0		
10.	Arunachal Pradesh	94.0									47.0	47.0		
11.	Andman and Nicobar	74.0									37.0	37.0		
12.	Lakshadweep	22.0								22.0				
13.	Manipur	208.0										120.0	88.0	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
14.	Nagaland	128.0									42.0	42.0		44.0
15.	Tripura	302.0									302.0			
16.	Delhi	2316.0									1158.0	1158.0		
17.	Gujarat	4878.0								2439.0		2439.0		
18.	Andhra Pradesh	7614.0									3807.0	3807.0		
19.	Haryana	1924.0										962.0	962.0	
20.	Kerala	3600.0								3600.0				
21.	Tamilnadu	6790.0									3395.0	3395.0		
22.	Maharashtra	9014.0								4507.0			4507.0	
23.	Karnataka	5350.0									2675.0	2675.0		
24.	Punjab	2392.0									1196.0	1196.0		
25.	Uttar Pradesh	15154.0	7577.0									7577.0		
26.	Uttarakhand	782.0	391.0									391.0		
27.	Rajasthan	5082.0										2546.0	2546.0	
28.	Goa	150.0									75.0			75.0
29.	Daman and Diu	12.0									6.0	6.0		
30.	DNH	14.0								7.0		7.0		
31.	Chandigarh	112.0									56.0	56.0		
32.	Himachal Pradesh	608.0										304.0	304.0	
33.	Pondicherry	64.0								32.0	32.0			
34.	Karaiikal	18.0									9.0	9.0		
35.	Mahe	4.0									2.0	2.0		
36.	Yanam	2.0										2.0		
37.	Madhya Pradesh	5523.0									2762.0	2761.0		
38.	Chhattisgarh	2013.0									1007.0	1006.0		
39.	Bhutan	—												
Total		99950.0	11692.0	1434.0	0.0	1724.0	1000.0	0.0	865.0	10607.0	18473.0	42185.0	11799.0	171.0

[Translation]

Transfer of Technology from DRDO

2922. SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of technologies developed by Defence Research Development Organisation (DRDO) during the last five years; and

(b) the details of technologies transferred from DRDO

to private industry/Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) for commercial utilization?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY):

(a) Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has developed numerous technologies during the last five years. These include missiles; composite materials; powder metallurgy; fuel cells; paints; electronic warfare systems; avionics; Unmanned Aerial Vehicle, target drones; data processing; antennas; artificial intelligence; encryptions; radars and sonars; communication systems; signal processing; guidance and control systems; gyroscope; imaging infrared seeker; sensors; combat vehicles; nuclear, biological and chemical decontamination suites; parachutes; propellants and explosives; detonators; food technology; etc.

(b) DRDO developed technologies are primarily for use of Defence Forces. However, many developed technologies are dual use technologies for defence as well as civil applications. There have been number of technologies transferred to private industries/PSUs for commercial utilization. Some of the significant technologies are: titanium sponge; typhigen kits; biodigesters; seabuckthorn juice; exterior paint; dental implantation; vermi-compost; aloe vera cream, HAPO bag; sealants, attracticide; NBC filters; herbal products; ration packs; canisters, food warmer; etc.

[English]

Procurement of Coarse Grains

2923. SHRI SUBRATA BOSE: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has finalised any proposal to procure millet/ coarse grains directly from the farmers in various States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has directed the Food Corporation of India (FCI) to start procurement of coarse grains;

(d) if so, the details thereof and progress made therein; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to make the FCI's procurement policy more transparent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (c) As per the existing policy procurement of coarsegrains under Minimum Support Price (MSP) operation is undertaken by the State Governments and their Agencies on behalf of Government of India. Food Corporation of India (FCI) is not directly undertaking procurement of coarserains.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Women Industrial Training Institutes

2924. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up Women Industrial Training Institutes (WITIs) under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes to expand vocational training programmes across the country;

(b) If so, the details of the schemes formulated by the Union Government in this regard; and

(c) the number of WITI proposed to be set up during Eleventh Plan, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES):

(a) and (b) Yes Sir, under the on going Centrally Sponsored Scheme, "Establishment of New ITIs in the North Eastern States, Sikkim and Jammu & Kashmir", two new women ITIs are being set up at Yupia in Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh and at Jammu in Jammu & Kashmir.

Total allocation for the scheme is Rs.137 crore. The scheme was started in 2.001-02 and will continue up to financial year 2008-09. Scheme covers setting up of new general ITIs, strengthening of existing ITIs and 2 new Women ITIs. In general ITIs, women can also seek admission. National Council for Vocational Training (NCVT) has recommended 25% reservation for women in general ITIs.

(c) At present there is no proposal.

*[Translation]***Grain Banks**

2925. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Village Grain Banks have been set up in all States under Antyodaya Anna Yojana;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the names of States where Village Grain Banks have not been established yet; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to set up Grain Banks for providing food security to the poor in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (c) The Village Grain Banks have been sanctioned by the Department of Food & Public Distribution in 17 States so far. A statement showing the number of Village Grain Banks sanctioned/established is annexed.

(d) The progress regarding establishment of Village Grain Banks is being reviewed periodically and the state Governments are requested to expedite setting up of the Village Grain Banks sanctioned to them. On receipt of the proposals from the States, additional Village Grain Banks are going to be sanctioned under the scheme during the current five-year plan.

Statement*Number of Village Grain Banks (VGBs) Sanctioned/Established*

S.No.	Name of State	VGBs sanctioned by D/O Food & PD			VGBs set up by States
		2005-06	2006-07	Total	
1.	Maharashtra	—	1377	1377	—
2.	Andhra Pradesh	1214	3743	4957	1214
3.	West Bengal	—	170	170	—
4.	Gujarat	—	226	226	—
5.	Madhya Pradesh	926	—	926	—
6.	Orissa	240	—	240	—
7.	Tripura	13	—	13	—
8.	Chhattisgarh	262	1642	1904	262
9.	Jharkhand	583	—	583	—
10.	Meghalaya	44	—	44	20
11.	Uttar Pradesh	—	500	500	—
12.	Assam	—	100	100	—
13.	Sikkim	—	80	80	—
14.	Himachal Pradesh	—	55	55	—
15.	Nagaland	—	150	150	150
16.	Uttarakhand	—	55	55	—
17.	Manipur	—	93	93	—
Total		3282	8191	11473	1646

Production of Potato

2926. PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:
 SHRI SHISHUPAL N. PATLE:
 SHRI MOHD. TAHIR:
 SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the production of potato has reduced during the current year as compared to previous years;

(b) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor;

(c) whether there has been steep hike in the prices of potato over the last few years;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the enquiry is being conducted to find out the reasons for increasing prices of potato; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) No, Sir. There is no reduction in production of potato during the year 2006-07 from that in 2005-06.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The prices of horticulture commodities such as potato are generally more volatile due to various factors such as fluctuations in production, seasonally and variability of their arrivals in the Market. A point to point comparison of potato prices, measured in terms of Wholesale Price Index (WPI Base- 1993 -94) shows that between August 5, 2006 and August 4, 2007, the price rise has been 3.99%, which is less than the general rate of inflation. However, price rise corresponding to WPI on August 6, 2005 was relatively much higher than the general rate of inflation.

(e) and (f) There is a mechanism of regular monitoring of prices and market arrival of various essential commodities, including potato, and corrective measures are taken as and when required.

Family Insurance Scheme for Farmers

2927. SHRI RAGHUVeer SINGH KOSHAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to introduce family insurance scheme for the farmers at the concessional premium rate;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has received any request/memorandum in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

Agriculture Produce (Grading and Marketing) Act, 1937

2928. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Agriculture Produce (Grading and Marketing) Act, 1937 fixes quality standards;

(b) if so, whether the Government considers prescribing the purity standards stipulated by codex/ International Standard Organisations to enable Indian products compete in the International Market;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the names of the agricultural products approved so far by the core group on harmonization of fruits and vegetables; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to improve the grading methods for agricultural products for export purposes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Agricultural Produce (Grading and Marketing) Act, 1937 empowers the Central Government to make Rules for:

- (i) Fixing grade designation to indicate quality of framing schedule article.
- (ii) Defining the quality indicated by every grade designation, and
- (iii) Specifying grade designation mark to represent particular grade designation.

The Standards notified as per the provision of the above Act are popularly called Agmark Standards.

In order to make Indian produce compete in the International market, the standards framed under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 and International standards framed by Codex Alimentarius Commission, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), European Commission (EC), International Organization for Standardization (ISO), etc. are taken into consideration while fixing/ refining the Agmark Standards. However, the characteristic and intrinsic quality of Indian produce is kept in consideration while fixing the standards, which are framed in a scientific manner.

(d) The Core Group on Harmonization of Fruits and Vegetables has so far approved the names of 32 fruits and vegetables. Out of these, Agmark Standards of 18 fruit and vegetables, namely, table grapes, litchi, mangoes, pineapple, pomegranate, guavas, shelling peas, sugar snap peas, brussie sprouts, headed cabbage, ribbed celery, spinach, bananas, papayas, plums, tomatoes, garlic and onion drafted by the Core Group have been notified under the provision of Agricultural Produce (Grading and Marking) Act, 1937.

The approved notification for notifying the Standards of remaining 14 fruit and vegetables, namely, strawberries,

cherries, melons, water melons, beans, cauliflowers, pears, okra, chillies, capsicum, sapota, custard apple, gherkin and carrots has been sent to the Government of India Press for publication.

(e) The Ministry of Commerce and Industry has set up a Standing Committee on fresh fruits and vegetables under the Chairmanship of the Chairman, Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) to look into formulation of export standards for fresh fruits and vegetables. The composition of Committee includes members from the Directorate of Marketing and Inspection (DMI), Director General of Health Services, Bureau of Indian Standards, Export Inspection Council, Trade etc. European Commission has approved India's procedure for pre-shipment inspection for export of fresh fruit and vegetable to European Union. Agricultural Marketing Adviser has been notified an official authority and DMI as inspection body for the purpose. Director General of Foreign Trade, Ministry of Commerce and Industry has notified DMI as an official certification agency for export of fresh fruit and vegetables for export to European Union. The certification is voluntary in nature. Grade standards harmonized with international standards have been notified so that fruit and vegetables graded as per these standards are acceptable in importing countries.

The pack houses with facilities for grading are permitted to certify under Agmark. Private Laboratories with expertise have been approved to grade the fruit and vegetables for export purposes. The chemists appointed by these laboratories have been trained in grading by the experts. Officers of DMI have also been trained in grading and certification.

Training Programme under Khadi and Village Industries Commission

2929. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) proposes to set up a National University for organising training programmes in the khadi and rural industries sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof?

(c) whether the Government is considering to upgrade the existing training centres of KVIC to generate more employment opportunities for the rural people; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF THE MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

**Irrigation Projects in Common
Minimum Programme**

2930. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Common Minimum Programme (NCMP) has accorded highest priority to irrigation sector;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government has decided under NCMP to complete existing irrigation projects in three to four years;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any of the existing irrigation project has so far been completed during the last three years and till date; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes Sir, The National Common Minimum Programme (NCMP) states that Irrigation will receive highest investment priority and all on-going projects will be completed according to a strict time schedule and that water management in all its aspects both for irrigation and drinking purposes will receive urgent attention.

(b) and (c) Irrigation being a State subject, irrigation projects are conceived, planned and implemented by the respective State Governments as per their own priority. However, Government of India provides central assistance to the State Governments for completion of on-going irrigation projects under the Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP) as per the guidelines. Further, the AIBP criteria have been relaxed and procedures simplified to cover more projects under this programme.

(d) and (e) As per the information provided by the State Governments, 61 major and medium irrigation projects which were provided assistance under AIBP have been completed during the last three years. The list of the completed projects is enclosed as statement. 1709 minor irrigation schemes have also been completed during this period with assistance from AIBP.

Statement

List of projects covered under AIBP and completed during the last 3 Years

Sl. No.	Name of State/Project
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	
1.	Sriram Sagar(stage-I)
2.	Nagarjunsagar
3.	Madduvalasa
4.	Somasilla
5.	Maddigedda
6.	Jurala
7.	Gundalavagu
8.	Alisagar
Assam	
9.	Bordikarai
10.	Kolonga
11.	Hawaipur LIS
12.	Integrated Irri, Scheme In Kollong Basin
Bihar	
13.	Upper Kiul
14.	Omi Reservoir
Chhattisgarh	
15.	Hasdeo Bango
16.	Jonk Diversion
17.	Barnai
Goa	
18.	Salauli Phase-I

1	2
	Gujarat
19.	Mukteshwar
	Haryana
20.	WRCP
	Jammu & Kashmir
21.	Zaingir Canal
22.	Marwal Lift
23.	Lethpora Lift
24.	Koili Lift
25.	Mod. of Pratap Canal
26.	Mod. of Kathua Canal
27.	Igophey
	Karnataka
28.	Hirehalla
	Kerala
29.	Kaliada Project
	Madhya Pradesh
30.	Bansagar (Unit-I)
31.	Sindh Phase-I
	Maharashtra
32.	Upper Tapi
33.	Wan
34.	Jayakwadi
35.	Vishnupuri
36.	Bahula
37.	Khadakwasla
38.	Kadvi
39.	Kasarsai
40.	Jawal Gaon
41.	Kasari
42.	Surya

1	2
43.	Bhima
44.	Patgoan
45.	Kumbhi
	Orissa
46.	Upper Kolab
47.	Potteru
48.	Improvement of Sasan Canal
49.	Improvement of Salki Irr. Project
50.	Naraj Barrage
51.	Salandi Left Main Canal
	Punjab
52.	Remodelling of UBDC
	Rajasthan
53.	Chhapi
54.	Panchana
55.	Bisalpur
56.	Chauli
57.	Mahi Bajaj Sagar
	Uttar Pradesh
58.	Kharif Channel in H.k.doab
59.	Tehri
60.	Jarauli Pump Canal
	West Bengal
61.	Modernisation of Barrage & Irrg. System of DVC

[Translation]

Reservation Policy for Delegations

2931. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has implemented reservation policy for the delegations visiting International Exhibitions for small industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has conducted any study regarding the utility of reservation policy therein; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The matter is under consideration of the Government.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

Indigenous Aircraft Carrier

2932. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the most ambitious ship-building project, construction of a 37,500 tonne Indigenous Aircraft Carrier (IAC) at Cochin Shipyard is running way behind schedule;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for delay in construction of the Indigenous Aircraft Carrier;

(d) the progress achieved so far regarding construction of the Aircraft Carrier; and

(e) the measures taken by the Government to boost the construction of the Aircraft Carrier?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) and (b) The construction of Indigenous Aircraft Carrier (IAC) is progressing with the scheduled "launch" of the ship in 2010 at Cochin Shipyard Ltd (CSL). However, the final delivery of the ship may be delayed from the earlier likely delivery in 2012.

(c) The delay is due to size and complexities in construction of an aircraft carrier, being designed and built indigenously for the first time at Cochin Shipyard Ltd. Besides, delay has also occurred due to delay in receipt of some critical materials such as steel from abroad.

(d) Principal design has been completed and specialist design inputs outsourced are progressing as per schedule.

Contract for Phase-I has been concluded with CSL in May 2007 and the construction of hull and ordering of equipment is progressing as per the contracted schedule.

(e) Adequate funds required at this stage as per contract, have been provided to CSL for procurement of various material, equipment and towards yard-effort as per shipbuilding schedule, as also for infrastructure augmentation. The project is being reviewed at various levels to remove impediments, if any, expeditiously.

Subsidy to Women Farmers

2933. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has prepared a scheme keeping in view the role of women farmers and their participation in oilseeds, pulses and maize cultivation under the Centrally sponsored schemes;

(b) if so, whether a higher rate of subsidy/assistance proposed to be provided to women farmers,

(c) if so, whether there is any provision to give special package to the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes (SCs/STs) women farmers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (d) A Centrally sponsored Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oilpalm and Maize (ISOPOM) has been formulated and is being implemented from 1.4.2004 in major oilseeds, pulses, maize and oilpalm growing states. Keeping in mind the role of women in the cultivation of these crops, a higher rate of assistance is provided under ISOPOM to the Women farmers, Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes, small and marginal farmers @50% of the cost or Rs. 15000/- whichever is less under the components of distribution of sprinkler sets and water pipes for carrying water from water source to the field as compared to assistance @33% of the cost or Rs. 10,000/- whichever is less to other categories of farmers.

In case of oilpalm, under the component of drip irrigation, higher rate of assistance of 50% of the cost with a ceiling ranging from Rs. 7400/- to Rs. 9300/- is provided to women, SC/ST, small and marginal farmers

as compared to 35% to other categories of farmers with a ceiling of Rs. 5200/- to Rs. 6500/-.

[Translation]

Import of Wheat at Higher Price

2934. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN:
SHRI VIJOY KRISHNA:
SHRI ANIL BASU:
SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI:
SHRI SUNIL KHAN:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government imported wheat at a higher price as compared to the price paid for procurement in the country;

(b) if so, the detail is thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there is any proposal to purchase wheat from the open market instead of importing it for welfare schemes;

(d) if so, the details thereof, indicating the price in the domestic market and the import price;

(e) whether the tenders received for a lower price were cancelled and later issued at a higher price; and

(f) if so, the detail is thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In order to ensure the food security of the country and make wheat available for Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and other welfare schemes, the Government decided to import upto five million tonnes of wheat during the year 2007-08. Accordingly, the State Trading Corporation (STC) was asked to place orders for import of 5.11 lakh MTs wheat at a weighted average price of US \$ 325.59 per MT C&F (FO).

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) and (f) Wheat is imported in tranches by floating tenders at different intervals. The Government invited a tender on 30.4.2007 for import of one million tonnes of wheat. Offers were received for supply of 3.06 lakh tonnes of wheat at US \$ 263 per MT. No purchase was made against the tender. A second tender was invited on 26.06.2007 for import of one million tonnes of wheat and 5.11 lakh MTs of wheat has been ordered to be imported at a weighted average price of US \$ 325.59 per MT C&F(FO). The main reasons for non-acceptance of offer under the first tender are as follows:

(i) STC, the agency which was entrusted the work of import of wheat by the Government advised that there are possibilities of softening of prices for arrival beyond August 2007 after the harvest in major wheat exporting countries.

(ii) International Grains Council (IGC) Report of April, 2007 reported a good Global crop of 623 million tonnes against last year's crop of 593 million tonnes which could have a softening effect on wheat prices.

(iii) The offers received for delivery in the months of July/August were lower than for June/July, indicating lower prices in coming months.

(iv) Declining price trend in the international market at that time.

(v) Domestic procurement was going on and payment of higher prices for imported wheat could have resulted in traders hoarding wheat stocks in the hope of getting higher prices in future, thereby affecting procurement.

[English]

Vegetable Malls

2935. SHRI ABU AYES MONDAL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has issued licenses to different organizations to set up vegetables, fruits and consumable items Mall in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has put in place any mechanism for regular monitoring of the quality of products being sold through such departmental stores;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government is considering any proposal to set up such stores through participation of Public Sector/Autonomous Organizations throughout the country; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the time by which these are likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) and (b) There is no restriction on the entry of any domestic investor into the retail sector. Licenses are, however, issued under Rules 50 of the Prevention of Food Adulteration (PFA) Rules, 1955 for manufacture, sell, stock, distribute or exhibit for sale any article of food, including prepared food or ready to serve irradiated food.

(c) and (d) The Food (Health) Authorities of States/ Union Territories are responsible for the implementation/ enforcement of the Prevention of food Adulteration Act, 1954 and Rules, 1955, who draw samples of various articles of food and take penal action against the offenders where the samples are found not conforming to the provisions of the PFA Act, 1954 and Rules made there under.

(e) No Sir, at present, there is no such proposal.

(f) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Infiltration from Across Border

2936. SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB PATIL:
SHRI KIREN RIJU:
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY:
SHRI ABU AYES MONDAL:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a top level Israeli military delegation visited India to discuss counter-terrorism and anti-infiltration strategies in Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) if so, the measures suggested by the delegation to check infiltration in Jammu and Kashmir;

(c) whether Line of Control (LoC) has suddenly become hot with terrorists making concerted efforts to sneak into India from across the border;

(d) if so, whether figures show a two to three-fold jump in infiltration in April and May this year as compared with the same period in 2005 and 2006;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the remedial steps taken by the Government to deal with the situation?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A three member delegation of Israeli Defence Forces visited India from 13-18 June 2007. The aim of the visit was to enhance defence co-operation on various issues, including terrorism. During this visit, the delegation also visited Jammu and Kashmir. There was a mutual exchange of information on the methodologies being used in combating terrorism by the two countries.

(c) to (e) The details of comparative figures of infiltration attempts in April and May for 2005, 2006 and 2007 are given below:

Year	2005	2006	2007
April	44	43	82
May	33	60	68

(f) The Government in tandem with the State Government, have adopted a multi-pronged approach, to contain cross-border infiltration in Jammu and Kashmir, which includes, inter-alia, strengthening of border management and multi-tiered and multi-modal deployment along International Border/Line of Control and near the ever changing infiltration routes, construction of border fencing, improved technology, weapons and equipment for security forces, improved intelligence and operational coordination and synergizing intelligence flow to check infiltration and pro-active action against the terrorists within the State. The counter infiltration efforts are reviewed periodically at various levels in the State Government, (including the two Unified Headquarters headed by the Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir) and in the Central Government.

*[English]***Losses to Farmers**

2937. SHRI K. VIRUPAKSHAPPA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether most of the farms operated by the Government are running under loss; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the measures taken to overcome such losses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) The State Farms Corporation of India (SFCI) Ltd., a Central Public Sector Enterprise, is operating six farms, of which Bahraich (Uttar Pradesh) and Raichur (Karnataka) farms are running on loss. Main reason for loss at Bahraich farm is restrictions imposed by Uttar Pradesh Forest Department on infrastructure development as the farm is situated in forest area. At Raichur farm, non-availability of irrigation water from Tungbhadra Distributory No. 54 during February to July is the main reason for loss. SFCI has closed unviable farms, diversified its activities, expanded dealers' network, implemented Voluntarily Retirement Scheme/Voluntary Separation Scheme and other austerity measures to improve performance.

*[Translation]***Speed Post Centres**

2938. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of speed post centers functioning in the country during the last three years;

(b) whether there is any proposal for setting up of more such centers in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the number of speed post centers likely to be opened during the Eleventh Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) The number of Speed Post

Centres functioning in the country for the last three years is given below:

Year	Number of Speed Post Centres in the National Network
2004-05	151
2005-06	157
2006-07	211
2007-08 (upto 30.08.07)	266

(b) to (e) The network Speed Post Service is extended and Speed Post Centres are set up as needed taking into account the market requirements, customer needs, expected business, transport facilities Available etc.

*[English]***Restrictions on Private Courier Service**

2939. SHRI K.S. RAO:

SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:

SHRI SUGRIB SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of courier operators registered with the Government and the details of regulations governing their operations;

(b) whether the government proposes to formulate a new law covering all aspects of private courier operators and also of Indian Postal Services and put in place regulations of these services for providing efficient and value added services to benefit customers; and

(c) if so, the details thereof;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Courier operators are not registered with the Department of Posts. However, private couriers registered with the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion for the purpose of Foreign Direct Investment, are given in the enclosed statement.

(b) and (c) There is a proposal to amend the Indian Post Office Act, 1898. *inter alia* envisages appointing of a Mail Regulatory and Development Authority mail sector in the country. However, the proposal has not yet been finalized.

Statement

Detailed Break-up for Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and Foreign Technology Cases (FTCs) Approved by Government during January 2000 to May 2007
Item of Manufacture Like Courier

(Amount in million)

Sl. No.	Registration No and date	Indian Company Name and Address	Foreign Collaborator Name and Address	Foreign Equity		%age of Foreign Equity
				In Rs.	In US \$	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Country: Hongkong						
1.	314 29th July, 2004	Malca Amit Hong Kong, Ltd., C/O Mulla & Mulla & Craigie Blunt and Caroe Mulla House, 51 M.G. Road Fort, Mumbai-400001 Location: Greater Mumbai (Mumbai) (Maharashtra) APPR No(Date): 354 (31st December, 2004)	Malcha-Amit Hong Kong Ltd. Hong Kong	0.10	0.00	100.00
				Item of manufacturer Business of Transport Forwarding and Courier Sev. in Armoured Cars/Vehicles For Movements within Locations in India of Goods and Article Such As Diamonds Other Precious Stones Precious Metals		
Total Technical Cases: 0 Total Financial Cases: 1 Total Foreign Equity in Rs. Million: 0.10: US\$ Million: 0.00						
Country: Japan						
2.	172 31st August, 2006	OCS Overseas Courier Service Co. Ltd. C/O DSK Legal, 2, Palam Marg, Vasant Vihar, New Delhi 110057 Location: Delhi (Delhi) APR No(Date): 197(31st October, 2006)	Overseas Courier Services Company Limited, Japan	84.00	1.85	76.00
				Item of Manufacturer: To Carry on the Business of Central Carrier Couriers, Baggage Transporters,		

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
						Forwarding and Clearing, Agents, Packing and Repacking Agents of Courer Services in India and Abroad
Total technical Cases: 0 Total Financial Cases: 1 Total Foreign Equity in Rs. Million: 84.00: US \$ Million: 1.85						
			Country: U.S.A.			
3.	242 09th November, 2006	Federal Express Europe, INC, USA C/o Amarchand mangaldas amrachand towers, 216, Okhla Industrial East Phase-III, IAL New Delhi-110020. Location: Greater Mumbai(Mumbai) (Maharashtra) APTR No(Date): 248(31st January, 2007)	Federal Express Inc, (FEE) USA Federal Express International Inc, (FEI), USA	1,864.80	42.06	100.00
						Item of Manufacture: Business of Providing Services Related and Ancillary to International Courier Operations.
Total Technical Cases: 0 Total Financial Cases: 1 Total Foreign Equity in Rs. Million: 1,864.80: US\$ Million: 42.06						
			Country: Jordan			
4.	554 14th September, 1998	Aramex Couriers (India), Pvt. Ltd., C/o Ernst & Young Pvt. Ltd., IIInd Floor. The Capital Court, LSC Phase III, Olof Palme Marg, Munirka, New Delhi 110067 Location: Greater Mumbai(Mumbai)(Maharashtra) APPR No.(Date): 569(2nd September, 2002) Amendment Due to Change in Capital Structure	Aramex International Limited, Jordan	0.00	0.00	0.00
						Item of Manufacture: To Carry On The Existing Business of Promoting, Providing, Operating Handling Organized Courier and Cargo Services by Air, Land, Water Transport or by any Other Means
Total Technical Cases: 0 Total Financial Cases: 1 Total Foreign Equity in Rs. Million: 0.00: US\$ Million: 0.00						

*Detailed Company-wise Details of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) Inflows
From January 2000 to May 2007
Item of Manufacture like Courier*

Sl. No.	Name of Indian Company	Country	Name of Foreign Collaborator	Item of Manufacture	(Amount in Million)	
					(In Rs.)	(In US \$)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	NARU Logistic (I) Pvt. Ltd.,	Korea (South)	NARU International Co. Ltd.,	Courier Activities Other Than Post(This Group Includes Picking up, Transport and Delivery.	1.00	0.02
2.	TNT India Pvt. Ltd.,	Netherlands	TNT Express Worldwide NV	Courier Activities Other Than Post (This Group Includes Picking up, Transport and Delivery	130.00	2.94
3.	TNT India Pvt. Ltd.,	Netherlands	TNT Express Worldwide NV	Courier Activities Other Than Post(This Group Includes Picking Up, Transport and Delivery	600.00	13.59
4.	TNT India Pvt. Ltd.	Netherlands	TNT Express Worldwide NV	Courier Activities Other Than Post(This Group Includes Picking Up Transport and Delivery.	900.00	20.38
5.	TNT India Pvt. Ltd.,	Netherlands	TNT Express Wordwide NV	Courier Activities Other Than Post(This Group	1,950.00	44.16

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
				Includes Picking Up, Transport and Delivery.		
6.	TNT India Pvt. Ltd.,	Netherlands	TNT Express Wordwide NV	Courier Activities	347.00	7.88
7.	Federal Express (India) Pvt. Ltd.,	U.S.A.	Federal Express Corpn.	Courier Activities	15.00	0.33
8.	World Courier India Pvt. Ltd.,	U.S.A.	World Courier Group Inc. USA	Courier Activities Other Than Post(This Group Includes Picking UP, Transport and Delivery	2.69	0.06
9.	Federal Express(I) Pvt. Ltd.,	U.S.A.	Federal Express Corporation	Courier Activities Other Than Post(This Group Includes Picking UP, Transport and Delivery	10.00	0.22
10.	Blue Dart Express Ltd.,	Acquisition of Share	DHL Express (SGP) PTE LTD.,	Logistic and Courier Business	4,253.04	97.23
11.	Blue Dart Express Ltd.,	Acquisition of Share	DHL Express (SGP) PTE Ltd.,	Logistic and Courier Service	1,065.03	24.35
12.	D.H.L. World Wise Exports(I) Pvt. Ltd.,	Acquisition of Share	D.H.L. Wordwide Exports B.V.	INTL & Express Services (Courier)	1,051.42	22.86
13.	Prakash Air Freight Pvt. Ltd.,	Acquisition of Share	Federal Express International INC	Domestic Air And Ground Express Courier Service	1,323.30	29.85
Grand Total (Rs. in Million)					11,648.47	263.88

Interest Rate on Saving Schemes

2940. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Department of Posts (DoP) has requested the Ministry of Finance to increase the interest rate on deposits and saving schemes of DoP;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Matter of increase in rate of interest was first taken up by Department of Posts with Ministry of Finance on 17.11.2006 and again on 27.2.2007.

(c) Response of Ministry of Finance is as under:-

"Interest rates on small saving schemes are benchmarked to the average yields on Government Securities of comparable maturity in the secondary market, as recommended by the Expert Committee on Administered Interest Rates under the chairmanship of Dr. Y.V. Reddy, then Dy. Governor, Reserve Bank of India and reviewed from time to time. At present there is no proposal under consideration of Government to increase the interest rates on small saving schemes."

[*Translation*]

Special Scheme for Free Treatment/Medicines

2941. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR:
SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to formulate a special scheme for providing free treatment and medicines for patients suffering from sickle cell, thalassemia and anaemia diseases;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any special centers are being set up for diagnosis, treatment and research on these diseases in the country including Nagpur;

(d) if so, whether the Government is contemplating to provide free medicines to such patients in view of constant need for treatment; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (e) There is no such proposal. However, under the National Illness Fund, patients in low socio-economic status can seek financial assistance up to Rs.1.00 lakhs. The treatment for Sickle Cell anemia and Thalassemia is available at most of the hospitals. Preventive vaccines are given to protect from various childhood infections. The mainstay of treatment for thalassemia is blood transfusion. Sufficient blood is available in blood banks of various hospitals for this purpose. The Government of India has already given custom duty exemption for the import of both these items. Many Thalassemic Societies are also offering this drug either free or at reduced cost. A new oral chelating drug, Desferiprone manufactured by Cipla and is available in market since 1995 for management of Thalassemia. This drug has reduced the cost of the management by almost 40% and has been considered less expensive and patient compliance is also better. ICMR has recently completed two multicentric studies on Sickle Cell Anemia and Thalassemia with Nagpur, Mumbai and Pune as centres from Maharashtra state in addition to other states. Under this project a simple intervention method to reduce the sickle cell crisis in the affected individuals, which included Folic acid and Fersolate tablets to be given to cases of nutritional anemia and SCD with iron deficiency. Sickle cell anemia patients have been advised to take electrical powder and plenty of fluid during the vasoocclusive crises. A strategy to improve public awareness of Thalassemia, its diagnosis, treatment and prevention will have a significant impact on the burden of the disease in the country as has been done in other countries.

[*English*]

Fake Passports

2942. SHRI M. APPADURAI:
SHRI RAKESH SINGH:

Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cases of sending Indians abroad particularly to Malaysia and Singapore by the agents on fake Passport and visa after collecting huge amount from them have come to the notice of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken against such agents?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Trainees Under SAI Schemes

2943. SHRIMATI JYOTIRMOYEE SIKDAR: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the age limit prescribed for training under the different schemes of Sports Authority of India (SAI), alongwith the criteria fixed for enrolling the persons for such training, scheme-wise;

(b) whether the Government is aware that many trainees enrolled under various schemes of SAI continue to get coaching/training facilities beyond the prescribed age limit for such training ; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ, MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) At present the Sports Authority of India is implementing the following schemes for the promotion and development of sports in the country:

- (i) National Sports Talent Contest (NSTC) Scheme
- (ii) Army Boys Sports Company (ABSC) Scheme
- (iii) Special Area Games (SAG) Schemes & Extension Centres of SAI.
- (iv) SAI Training Centres (STC) Scheme & Extension Centres of STC
- (v) Centre of Excellence (COX) Scheme

The Scheme-wise age limit is as under:

1. NSTC- Sub-Junior (8- 14 years)
2. ABSC- Sub-Junior (8-16 years)
3. STC and Extension Centre of STC-Junior & Senior (14-21 years)
4. SAG & Extension Centres of SAG- Junior and Senior (14-21 years)
5. COX-Senior National (17-25 years).

The Scheme-wise criteria fixed for enrolling the persons is given in enclosed statement.

(b) and (c) In terms of SAI's guidelines, once trainees cross the upper age limit prescribed under the Scheme, they are not entitled to be retained. In exceptional cases, where a trainee is in a National Camp, or a medal holder in recognized international tournament with a current potential to continue performing well in international events, such a person is allowed to continue training under the SAI Sports Promotional Scheme subject to the permission of the competent authority. As instances have come to notice where apparently exceptions have been made without due justification, instructions have been issued for SAI to review all such cases in consultation with the local Arjuna Awardee who are heading SAI's discipline-wise Monitoring and Review Committees.

Statement

Scheme-wise criteria for enrollment of trainees under Sports Promotional Schemes of SAI are as under:

National Sports Talent Contest (NSTC) Scheme

The selection of trainees under the NSTC scheme is done on potential basis and performance basis,

- (1) Trainees who are medal winners in State/National level competitions are automatically admitted into the scheme subject to their age verifications and being found medically fit,
- (2) Trainees who are medal winners at District level competitions or have participation in State level competitions are admitted subject to their being found medically fit and physically and also have the required potential which is assessed by battery of test.

- (3) For deep selection from the remote, tribal & coastal areas the trainees are also selected by organizing competitions among participants. Under this criteria for team games as well as individual events, these participants are made to play and selection done by a Selection Committee consisting of representative of SAI, School/Akhara, SAI coaches, Sports Scientists etc. The sports persons identified on this basis are offered admission after age verification, medal examination and found suitable by applying battery of tests.

Army Boyes Sports Company (ABSC) Scheme

At present the selection of trainees under the ABSC scheme is done on potential basis and performance basis.

- (1) Trainees who are medal winners in State/National level competitions are automatically admitted into the scheme subject to their age verifications and being found medically fit.
- (2) Trainees who are medal winners at District level competitions or have participation in State level competitions are admitted subject to their age verification and being found medically fit and physically and also have the required potential which is assessed by battery of test.
- (3) For deep selection from the remote, tribal & coastal areas the trainees are also selected by organizing competitions among participants. Under this criteria for team games as well as individual events, the participants are made to play and selection done by a Selection Committee consisting of representative of SAI, Army, SMC and coaches.
 - (i) Application of specific games/skill tests. For this the participants could be made to play and the short listing be done by the Committee.
 - (ii) Age verification of the short listed participants for this age should be between 8 to 16 years.
 - (iii) Application of Battery of tests on sports persons qualifying the specific game/skill test and age-verification to assess their potential.
 - (iv) Medical examination of the sports persons qualifying the above tests.

SAI Training Centres (STC) Scheme

At present selection of trainees under STC Scheme is done on two basis, potential based and performance based. Trainees who are medal winners at State/National level competitions are automatically admitted subject to their being found medically fit and physically and also have the required potential which is assessed by battery of test. Trainees who are medal winners at District level competitions or have participation in State level competitions are admitted subject to their being found medically fit and physically and also have the required potential which is assessed by battery of test.

Special Area Games (SAG) Scheme

At present selection of trainees under STC Scheme is done on two basis, potential based and performance based. Trainees who are medal winners at State/National level competitions are automatically admitted subject to their being found medically fit and physically and also have the required potential which is assessed by battery of test. Trainees who are medal winners at District level competitions or have participation in State level competitions are admitted subject to their being found medically fit and physically and also have the required potential which is assessed by battery of test.

Centre Of Excellence (COX) Scheme

- (1) Best six in Senior National competition and Junior International Competitions are eligible for admission provided they have the potential to continue in competitive sports for at least 2 or 3 years.
- (2) The admission to Centre of Excellence for those who excel for various schemes of SAI as well as talented sports persons scouted collectively by the SAI and National Sports Federations for advance training to enable them to develop their sports excellence, and to make them medal winners at International Tournaments.

[Translation]

Food and Nutrition Security

2944. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the food and nutrition security has been referred to by the Government in the approach paper to the Eleventh Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons for not mentioning the said issue in the approach paper to Eleventh Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) and (b) The Approach Paper to the Eleventh Five Year Plan as approved by the National Development Council states that increase in agricultural income and self-sufficiency in agricultural production is critical for ensuring food security. The Approach Paper also mentions raising the growth rate of agricultural GDP to 4% per year in the Eleventh Plan from the current level of around 2% per year, strengthening of the Public Distribution System, rural development and poverty alleviation programmes including the programmes of wage employment, mid-day meals to school children, etc. as instruments to ensure food security and improve the nutritional status of the population. The other programmes to improve the nutritional status of the different groups of the population include Integrated Child Development Programme (ICDS) for supplementary nutrition to children and National Rural Health Mission (NHRM), to improve the access and availability of quality health care, sanitation and nutrition. The Approach Paper states reduction of malnutrition among children of age group 0-3 to half its present level as one of the monitorable socio-economic targets of the Eleventh Plan.

(c) In view of above, does not arise.

[English]

Rationalisation of Toll Tax

2945. SHRI K.S. RAO: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to collect toll tax on roads and bridges in perpetuity and continue with multiple taxation system even after the capital and interest on the road project is fully recovered;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken for rationalization of toll tax for maintenance of roads after the road is transferred back to Public Works Department under BOT?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c) As per Section 11 of National Highways (Fee for the use of National Highways Section and Permanent Bridge Public Funded Project) Rules 1997, fee shall be collected in perpetuity.

[Translation]

Emission of Methane from Dams and Water Bodies

2946. SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN:
SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a study by Brazil's National Institute of Space Research has revealed that Indian dams and water bodies contribute to 27.86% of the world's emission of Methane, a green house gas, contributing enormously to global warming;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(c) the steps contemplated for safe dispersal of this massive contributor of greenhouse gases to avert a catastrophe?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) Some news reports were there based on the research studies carried out in Brazil and same were extended without any Indian experimental data. Scientifically, methane, a greenhouse gas contributing to global warming, is emitted from reservoirs of dams. However, no scientific study, as on date has been brought out pertaining to methane emissions from the reservoirs of Indian dams.

[English]

Use of Aspartame in Soft Drinks

2947. SHRI KULDEEP BISHNOI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the chemical sweetener "Aspartame" is being used in Diet or so called Zero Calorie soft drinks;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the side effects of Aspartame on human beings in the long run; and

(c) the action taken by the Government to ban the use of Aspartame in soft drinks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) The use of aspartame, an artificial sweetener is permitted in carbonated water upto maximum limit of 700 ppm with labeling requirements under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules, 1955. As per the labelling requirements, every package of food which is permitted to contain artificial sweetener and any advertisement for such food shall carry the following label, namely:

CONTAINS ARTIFICIAL SWEETENER AND FOR CALORIE CONSCIOUS

The maximum level prescribed for aspartame in carbonated water is considered as safe. The safety evaluation of aspartame has been done by the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives(JECFA). The limit prescribed for aspartame in carbonated water under PFA Rules, 1955 is well below the Acceptable Daily Intake prescribed for aspartame (40mg/kg body weight) by the JECFA.

(c) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Construction of NH in Maharashtra

2948. SHRI TUKARAM GANPAT RAO RENGE PATIL:
SHRI PRATIK P. PATIL:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the area-wise details of roads constructed or proposed to be constructed by National Highways Authority of India in Maharashtra during the last three years;

(b) the targets fixed for completion of the projects;

(c) whether the Government proposes four-laning of Sangli-Kolhapur-Sangli Peth road; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) The area-wise details of roads constructed or proposed to be constructed by National Highways Authority of India in Maharashtra during the last three years are given in the enclosed statement-I and II respectively.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. This Ministry is primarily responsible for the development and maintenance of National Highways and Sangli-Kolhapur-Sangli Peth road is not a National Highway.

Statement I

Details of Road Length Completed during the last three years in Maharashtra

	Length in (Km.)		
	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
Golden Quadrilateral	137.53	24.72	8.25
North - South	—	—	—
Port Connectivity	—	30	—
National Highway Development Phase III	—	30	—
Total	137.53	84.72	8.25

Statement II
Details of Ongoing Projects in Maharashtra

			Length in (Km.)
Stretch	National Highway No.	Length in (Km.)	Anticipated date of completion
1	2	3	4
North-South Corridor			
1. Four laning of MP/ Maharashtra border to Nagpur I/c Kamptee Kanoon and Nagpur Bypass (Km. 689 to Km. 723)	7	95.00	December, 2008
2. Butibori -ROB (Km. 22.850 to Km. 24.650)	7	1.80	June, 2008
3. Borkhedi-Jam (Km. 36.6 to Km. 64.0)	7	27.40	Jun, 2008
4. Jam-Wadner (Km. 64- Km. 94)	7	3.00	June, 2008
5. Wadner-Devdhari (Km. 94 to Km. 123)	7	29.00	April, 2009
6. Devdhari -Kelapur (Km. 123 to Km. 153)	7	30.00	December, 2008
7. Kelapur - Pimpalkhatti (Km. 153 to Km. 175) (Port connectivity)	7	22.00	November, 2008
8. Jawaharlal Nehru Port Phase-II SH-54+Amramarg+ Panvel Creek bridge	SH-54	14.35	December, 2007.
NHDP Phase III			
9. Dhule to Pimpalgaon (Km. 380 to Km. 265)	3	118.00	December, 2008
10. Gonde- Vadape (Thane) (Km. 440 to Km. 539)	3	100.00	April, 2009
11. Kondhali-Talegaon (Km. 50 to Km. 100)	6	50.00	March, 2009
12. Nagpur- Kondhali (Km. 9.2 to Km. 50)	6	40.00	December, 2008
13. Chattisgarh/ Maharashtra Border- Wainganga bridge	6	80.06	On or before December, 2013
14. Nagpur- Wainganga Bridge	6	60.00	-do-
15. M.P./Maharashtra Border-Dhule	3	97.00	-do-
16. Pimpalgaon-Nahik-Gonde	3	60.00	-do-

	1	2	3	4
17.	Kalamboli-Mumbra (6 laning)	4	20.00	-do-
18.	Pune- Solapur	9	170.00	-do-
19.	Panvel-Indapur	17	84.00	-do-
20.	Talegaon- Amravati	6	58.00	-do-

[English]

New Drug for Malaria

2949. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Institute of Science (US) Bangalore has evolved a new turmeric based drug of Malaria; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Yes Sir, Curcumin is derived from widely used Ayurvedic compound turmeric. Curcumin is a potent biological compound which has been shown to inhibit the growth of *P. falciparum* in culture. Oral administration of curcumin to mice infected with Malaria parasite (*Plasmodium berghei*) reduces blood parasitemia by 80-90% and enhances their survival significantly.

The inclusion of drug in the programme could only be considered after successful clinical trials and approval of the drug by the Food and Drug Administration.

Plantation of Mangroves

2950. SHRI JOACHIM BAXLA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to encourage plantation of mangroves along the coastal areas in the country including Orissa and West Bengal;

(b) if so, the details thereof; State-wise; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN

MEENA): (a) and (b) Mangroves require an appropriate mixture of saline & freshwater, and soft substrate like mudflats to be able to grow and perpetuate. The Ministry of Environment & Forests have so far identified 38 sites in the country as appropriate for planting of mangroves, and their conservation and management. The State-wise list, including Orissa & West Bengal, is given in the enclosed statement.

Under the Scheme on Conservation and Management of Mangroves, 100% Central Assistance is given to coastal States and Union Territories for implementing the approved Management Action Plans in the identified sites for components like survey & demarcation, mangrove planting, restoration & regeneration, livelihood supports for supplementary and alternate occupations, protection & surveillance measures, and education & awareness.

(c) Does not arise.

Statement

State/Union Territories	Mangrove areas
1	2
West Bengal	1. Sunderbans
Orissa	2. Bhitarkanika
	3. Mahanadi
	4. Subemarekha
	5. Devi
	6. Dhamra
	7. Mangrove Genetic Resources Centre
	8. Chilka
Andhra Pradesh	9. Coringa

1	2
	10. East Godavari
	11. Krishna
Tamil Nadu	12. Pichavaram
	13. Muthupet
	14. Ramnad
	15. Pulicat
	16. Kazhuvelli
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	17. North Andamans
	18. Nicobar
Kerala	19. Vembanad
	20. Kannur (Northern Kerala)
Karnataka	21. Coondapur
	22. Dakshin Kannada/Honnavar
	23. Karwar
	24. Manglore Forest Division
Goa	25. Goa
Maharashtra	26. Achra-Ratnagiri
	27. Devgarh-Vijay Durg
	28. Veldur
	29. Kundalika-Revdenda
	30. Mumbra-Diva
	31. Vikroli
	32. Shreevardhan
	33. Vaitama
	34. Vasai-Manori
	35. Malvan
Gujarat	36. Gulf of Kutchh
	37. Gulf of Khambhat
	38. Dumas-Ubhrat

Upgradation of Traditional Games

2951. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to upgrade the standard of traditional games like Kabaddi and Kho-Kho, etc.;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ, MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (c) The draft Comprehensive National Sports Policy, 2007, at present under discussion with stakeholders, states as follows with regards to traditional games:

"A key element of the overall strategy of the Comprehensive Sports Policy must include securing national and international recognition for indigenous games in which we have a natural cultural and civilizational advantage, an activity which advances community pride and self-confidence, where expertise and facilities for training/coaching are, by definition, locally available, where local spectator participation is assured, where domestic and even international rural tourism is likely to be generated, and where some indigenous games can attain the kind of international recognition and support that indigenous East Asian disciplines like judo, karate, wushu and taekwondo have secured".

Meanwhile, Government, through its various schemes and those of the Sports Authority of India, augments the efforts of the recognized National Sports Federations (NSFs), including those dealing with traditional games such as Kabaddi and Kho-Kho, by providing financial assistance for training and participation in international events abroad, holding of national and international tournaments in India, coaching/training of national teams/sportspersons through Indian and foreign coaches, procurement of equipment and other scientific support.

SAI's efforts for the promotion of traditional games are channelised through the adoption of Navodaya Vidyalayas under the National Sports Talent Contest Scheme; the adoption of Akharas; and the Special Area Games Scheme for tribal, coastal, hilly & rural areas.

In addition, SAI is also implementing the All India Rural Sports Tournaments and the North-East Sports Festival Scheme to broad-base games and sports and tap hidden talent in rural areas.

[*Translation*]

Funds for Chambal Cleaning Project

2952. SHRI RAGHUVeer SINGH KOSHAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the chambal cleaning project in Rajasthan has been revised and the amount has been increased in this regard;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the concurrence of the Government of Rajasthan has been obtained in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any time limit has been fixed to complete the said project; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (f) Under the National River Conservation Plan, four schemes pertaining to interception, diversion and treatment of sewage, low cost sanitation, river front development and improved wood crematoria have been sanctioned for Keshoraipatan and three schemes pertaining to low cost sanitation, river front development and improved wood crematoria have been sanctioned for Kota in Rajasthan for abatement of pollution of river Chambal. The total sanctioned cost of these schemes is Rs. 1.36 crore. Till date, six out of the seven sanctioned schemes have been completed and the remaining one scheme is under implementation.

In addition, a project proposal on "Interception, Diversion and Sewage Treatment for Kota" amounting to Rs.23.60 crore was received from Government of Rajasthan on 70:30 cost sharing basis between Central and the State Government. As the proposal did not include the entire pollution load from Kota town, the State Government has been asked to submit a revised proposal prepared as per the guidelines of the Ministry.

[*English*]

Promotion of Sports

2953. SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the sports for promotion of which grants are provided and the amount released during the last three years, till date;

(b) the Government's plan to provide basic amenities/facilities for the development of sports in the States with the central assistance during the current financial year;

(c) the number of stadia completed or proposed to be completed with central assistance state wise and location wise; and

(d) the central assistance likely to be provided for completion of these stadia during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ, MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) Government have recognized the National Sports Federations and the Indian Olympic Association for the promotion and development of their respective sports disciplines. The efforts of these Federations for the development of various sports disciplines, and excellence therein, are being significantly supplemented by Government through the 'Scheme of Financial Assistance to National Sports Federations' for organizing national and international tournaments in India, participation of Indian teams in tournaments and events abroad, provision of coaching through Indian and foreign coaches, backed-up with the required technical support, procurement of equipment etc.

The Federation-wise details of financial assistance provided during the last three years; till 18 June 2007 are given in the enclosed statement-I.

Besides, individual meritorious sports person are being assisted directly by the Ministry for the purchase of equipment, the provision of scientific support and training and participation within the country and abroad, under the 'Scheme relating to Talent Search & Training' and through the 'National Sports Development Fund'.

(b) Action is being taken under various schemes of the Sports Authority of India (SAI) to establish state-of-the-art training infrastructure and facilities in different parts of the country for spotting and nurturing sports talent in their Centres spread across the country, including in areas with special potential for different identified sports disciplines. Approximately 13,000 trainees are getting trained with the required scientific support at 230 centres around the country.

With a view to addressing the huge gap in the availability of sports infrastructure, especially at the grassroots level, the Ministry have received the in-principle approval of the Planning Commission to launch a nation-wide programme entitled 'Panchayat Yuva Krida Aur Khel Abhiyan', which aims at providing all village and intermediate panchayats with basic sports infrastructure in a phased manner over a period of 10 years

(c) and (d) Till 31.3.2005, the Ministry was

supplementing the efforts of State Governments for the creation of sports facilities in various places, including rural areas, by providing assistance under the Centrally Sponsored Sports Infrastructure Scheme. But with effect from 1.4.2005, the sports infrastructure schemes were transferred to the State Sector.

The State-wise details of sports infrastructure completed with Central assistance under the erstwhile scheme of Grants for Creation of Sports Infrastructure during the last three years have been indicated at enclosed statement-II.

During the current financial year 2007-08, no funds have been provided under the erstwhile Sports Infrastructure Scheme. State Governments will have to fund ongoing projects out of their own resources for which they can seek additional allocation of funds from the Planning Commission in their respective State annual plans.

Statement I

Sl. No.	Name of the Federation	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08 as on 18.6.2007
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	All India Carrom Federation	14.25	13.98	12.68	6.42
2.	All India Chess Federation	111.90	78.94	112.47	0
3.	All India Karate-Do-Federation	0.00	0.00	3.45	0
4.	All India Sports council of the Deaf	30.02	13.43	19.15	5.73
5.	Amateur Baseball Federation of India	12.50	07.00	15.49	0
6.	Amateur Handball Federation of India	14.00	34.57	38.64	10.50
7.	Atya Patya Federation India	7.50	12.00	15.50	4.00
8.	Ball Badminton Federation of India	5.50	0.00	0.00	0
9.	Basketball Federation of India	49.61	41.21	36.31	4.84
10.	Cycle Polo Federation of India	6.75	0.00	30.00	0
11.	Fencing Association of India	17.07	43.78	45.70	0
12.	Gymnastics Federation of India	18.88	14.88	66.47	2.54
13.	Indian Body Building Federation	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
14.	India Kayaking & Canoeing Association	16.06	36.50	21.23	2.67

1	2	3	4	5	6
15.	Indian Polo Association	1.62	01.10	1.55	0.40
16.	Indian power lifting Federation	13.00	15.00	8.50	6.90
17.	Judo Federation of India	56.37	64.66	48.62	6.90
18.	Kho-kho Federation of India	18.92	12.00	2.00	0
19.	Korfball Federation of India	12.50	09.00	12.50	6.00
20.	All India Tennis Association	136.87	77.45	90.07	23.41
21.	National Rifle Association of India	218.37	433.43	373.19	122.44
22.	Netball Federation of India	7.50	11.50	9.50	2.50
23.	Roller Skating Federation of India	15.00	9.00	0.00	0
24.	Rowing Federation of India	118.43	51.65	9.75	0
25.	Sepak Takraw Federation of India	7.50	10.50	13.50	3.00
26.	Shooting Ball Federation of India	12.00	0.00	0.00	0
27.	Soft Ball Federation of India	14.00	9.80	10.00	0
28.	Squash Racket Federation of India	119.37	15.42	21.94	0
29.	Swimming Federation of India	11.76	53.33	13.59	0
30.	Table Tennis Federation of India	116.78	165.10	178.75	60.74
31.	Taekwondo Federation of India	6.00	0.00	0.00	0
32.	Tenni-Koit Federation of India	10.50	11.00	13.00	1.50
33.	Tennis Ball Cricket Federation of India	7.00	17.00	11.50	3.50
34.	Tug of War Federation of India	12.50	11.50	20.75	0
35.	Volleyball Federation of India	32.17	94.97	58.17	16.84
36.	Yachting Association of India	159.88	141.30	78.40	0.77
37.	Wushu Association of India	10.50	7.10	13.50	0
38.	Throwball Federation of India	0.00	9.00	0.00	0
39.	Para Olympic	0.00	13.50	33.34	0
40.	Archery Association of India	58.95	51.75	96.48	12.58
41.	Billiards & Snooker Federation of India	23.52	28.57	16.13	1.49
42.	Indian Amateur Boxing Federation	81.28	142.74	81.79	20.64
43.	Indian hockey Federation	194.21	96.46	92.09	0
44.	Indian Women Hockey Federation	110.35	78.81	111.64	0
45.	Indian Amateur Kabaddi Federation	25.00	24.69	13.95	7.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
46.	Indian Weightlifting Federation	79.88	51.41	3.28	0
47.	Athletics Federation of India	215.08	227.95	86.83	58.30
48.	Badminton Association of India	160.16	271.94	117.65	5.33
49.	Equestrian Federation of India	32.76	31.20	29.06	0
50.	Football	119.36	70.37	30.55	47.84
51.	Indian Golf Union	32.48	37.84	33.65	2.01
52.	Wrestling Federation of India	225.35	209.82	32.58	6.15
53.	Winter Games Federation of India (WGFI)	9.64	12.51	1.65	0
54.	Women's Cricket Federation of India	0.00	0.00	1.00	0
55.	Cycling Federation of India	16.38	11.73	1.00	0
56.	Special Olympic Bharat	0.00	0.00	4.50	1.50
57.	Indian Olympic Association	13.48	28.53	538.10	6.71
58.	Sports Authority of India	550.00	950.00	500.00	0
Total		3370.46	3866.92	3222.66	455.75

Note: Rs. 150.00 lakhs was released in 2006-07 as a one time grant to Bengal Olympic Association for organizing Indo-Bangla games.

Statement II

List of Completed Projects Under the Scheme of Grants for Creation of Sports Infrastructure

2004-2005

Sl.No.	Name of the project/location with relevant file no.	Amount released (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3
1.	Volleyball court at Govt. Girls Hr. Sec. Chinnadarapuram, Distt. Karur, Tamilnadu No. F. 25-14/2000-SP.I	0.24150
2.	Indoor Stadium (Cat. I) at R.K. Mission Vidyalaya, Coimbatore, Tamilnadu No. F.25/2004-SP.I	9.00
3.	Indoor Stadium cat. III at Patil Maidan Ajmer, Rajasthan No. F. 23-3/2000-SP.I	6.725
4.	Outdoor Stadium Cat.I at Pune by Maharashtra Mandal, Pune Maharashtra. No. F. 16-8/99-SP.I	8.00

1	2	3
5.	Swimming Pool(Cat.II) at Nagarcovil, Kanyakumari Distt, Tamilnadu No. F. 25-3/2000-SP.I	2.50
6.	Volleyball court at Govt. Hr.Sec.School, Uppidam Angalum, Distt. Karur, Tamilnadu No. F.25-15/2000-SP.I	0.245
7.	Taluk Stadium at Yellapur, Distt. Uttar Kannada, Karnataka No. F. 13-3/93-SP.I	1.80
8.	Playfield at Government Vocational Hr.Sec. School, Kayyar, Distt Kasargate, Kerala No. F. 14-5/2000-SP.I	1.50
9.	Taluk Stadium at Haweri, Karnataka No. F.13-16/94-SP.I	2.00
10.	Basketball court at Govt. Sr. Sec. School, Lohara, Distt. Una, Himachal Pradesh No. F.11-4/99-SP.I	0.10
11.	Mini Stadium at Kotli, Mandi, Himachal Pradesh No. F.11-6/95-SP.I	0.22400
12.	Basketball court at Govt. Sr. Sec. School, Chaltara, Distt. Mandi Himachal Pradesh No. F. 11-7/2001-SP.I	0.06250
13.	Outdoor Stadium at Kurukeshtra, Haryana No. F. 6-207/86-SP.I	1.75
14.	Outdoor Stadium at Arasikere, Distt. Hassan, Karnataka No. F. 13-28/94-SP.I	1.05
15.	Cycling Track at Distt. Stadium, Bijapur, Karnataka No. F. 13-8/2002-SP.I	5.40
16.	Development of playfields at Distt. Unit Stadium, Kancheepuram, Tamilnadu No. F. 25-6/2000-SP.I	2.35
17.	Swimming Pool Cat. I at Mandsour, Madhya Pradesh No. F. 15-3/2000-SP.I	4.90
18.	Indoor Stadium Cat.I at Rajkot Municipal Corporation, Gujarat No. F. 9-2/99-SP.I	20.00
19.	Distt. Level Sports Complex at Ariyalur, Tamilnadu No. F. 25-5/2001-SP.I	6.90
20.	Development of football field at Govt. Hr.Sec.School, West Mambalow Ashok Nagar Chennai, Tamilnadu No. F. 25-16/2000-SP.I	0.739

1	2	3
21.	State Level Sports Complex at Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh No. F. 27-50/92-SP.I	5.00
22.	Distt. Level Sports complex at Aidukkottai, Tamilnadu No. F. 25-4/2000-SP.I	10.42925
23.	Swimming Pool Cat.II at Mehaboob Nagar, Andhra Pradesh No. F.4-19/2000-SP.I	24.00
24.	Sports Hostel at Bilaspur, Himachal Pradesh No. F. 11-6/99-SP.I	4.50
25.	Indoor Stadium (Cat. II) at Chhara Jhajjar by Lala Dewan Chand Moderu Wrestling & Yoga Centre Chhara, Jhajjar, Haryana No. F. 10-4/2001-SP.I	4.41
26.	Indoor Hall (Cat.III) at Paddal Ground, Mandi, Himachal Pradesh No. F.11-3/99-SP.I	3.00
27.	R.L. Tawade foundation, Maharashtra No. F. 16-22/2000-SP.I	4.54
28.	Swimming Pool Cat. II at Madurai, Tamilnadu No. F. 25-2/98-SP.I	12.50
29.	Swimming Pool Cat. II at Srikakulam, Andhra Pradesh No. F. 4-3/2000-SP.I	6.25
NE States		
30.	Indoor Stadium Cat. III at Thoubal by Thoubal Distt. Table Tennis Association, Thoubal, Manipur No. F.17-11/99-SP.I	3.00
31.	Playfield at Nakohou, Nagaland No. F. 20-16/2001-SP.I	0.25
32.	Playfield at Kumpung, Nagaland No. F. 20-18/2001-SP.I	0.25
33.	Playfield at Ngongchung, Nagaland No. F. 20-21/2001-SP.I	0.19
34.	Playfield at Longia, Nagaland No. F.20-11/2001-SP.I	0.25
35.	Playfield at Punbak, Nagaland No. F. 20-6/2001-SP.I	0.25
36.	Playfield at Noksem, Nagaland No. F. 20-22/2001-SP.I	0.04
37.	Swimming pool Cat.I at Dimapur by Expression Vol. Organisation, Dimapur, Nagaland No. F. 20-3/99-SP.I	36.50

1	2	3
38.	Indoor Stadium Cat.II at Nagarjun by Nagland Tennis Association Nagarjun, Dimapur, Nagaland No. F. 20-14/2000-SP.I	27.50
39.	Outdoor Stadium Cat.I at Chen by Chan Wankan Development Society, Nagaland No. F. 20-8/98-SP.I	13.00
40.	Indoor Stadium Cat.II at Chen by Veda Spoting Club, Nagaland No. F.20-9/98-SP.I	27.50
41.	Tennis Court at Lampal Pat Imphal by Manipur Tennis Association, Manipur No. F. 17-2/2002-SP.I	1.50
42.	Outdoor Stadium Cat.I at Umrangnu, Assam No. F. 6-2/2004-SP.I	27.00

List of Completed Projects Under the Scheme of Grants for Creation of Sports Infrastructure

2005-06

Sl.No.	Name of the project/location with relevant file no.	Amount released (Rs. in lakhs)
1.	Maharashtra Grants for Development of Sports & Games released of 2nd Instalment of grant during 2005-06 No. F. 16-6/95-SP.I	0.08
2.	Multipurpose G.M.C. Balayogi Memorial Indoor Stadium at Amalapurpose, Distt. East godavari, Andhra Pradesh No. F. 4-2/2003-SP.I	45.00
3.	Swimming Pool by Central hindu Military Education Society Nagpur, Maharashtra No. F. 16-25/2001-SP.I	45.00
4.	Indoor Stadium cat.III at Kolongpur, Distt Nagaon, Assam No. F. 6-3/2002-SP.I	7.00
5.	District Level Sports Complex at Nagapattinam, Tamilnadu No. F. 25-7/99-SP.I	5.52667

List of Completed Projects Under the Scheme of Grants for Creation of Sports Infrastructure

2006-2007

Sl. No.	Name of the project/location with relevant file no.	Amount released (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3
1.	Development Basketball ground at Govt. Sr.Sec.School, Bhawarna, Distt. Kangra, Release of Final instalment No. F. 11-8/2001-SP.I	0.10

1	2	3
2.	Govt. of Maharashtra—Grants for construction of Indoor Stadium(Cat.I) at Dombivli (East) No. F. 16-19/2003-SP.I	60.00
3.	Gujarat—Grants for construction of Swimming Pool (Cat.I) at Navsari Nagar palika No. F. 9-4/2003-SP.I	45.00
4.	Govt. of Maharashtra—Grants for construction of Indoor Stadium (Cat.10 at Chincholi, Distt. Nashik (Hilly Area) Release of funds 2006-07 No. F. 16-3/2002-SP.I	9.00
5.	Andhra Pradesh—Grants for construction of Swimming Pool at Viskhapattanam N. F. 4-5/93-SP.I	21.50
6.	Manipur—Grants for construction of Cricket ground with pitch at Kyam No. F. 17-13/2000-SP.I	0.33800
7.	Andhra Pradesh—Grants for construction of Swimming Pool(Cat.I) at Warangal No. F. 4-8/2000-SP.I	5.32
8.	Kerala—Grants for construction of outdoor stadium at Pathanamthitta No. f. 14-4/89-SP.I	1.55
9.	Madhya Pradesh—Grants for construction of Indoor Stadium(Cat.II) at Ranital, Jabalpur No. F. 15-2/2000-SP.I	4.06500
10.	Madhya Pradesh—Construction of Chhatrasai Sports Stadium, Pichhore, Distt. Shivpuri No. F. 15-4/95-SP.I	0.80000
11.	Nagaland—Constuction of Indoor Stadium (Cat.III) at Chethaba by Hill Pioneer. No. F. 20-17/99-SP.I	15.00
12.	Karnataka—Grants for construction of Swimming pool (Cat.II) at Maniknagar, Distt. Bidar, Karnataka No. f. 13-3/2000-SP.I	12.50
13.	Nagaland—Grants for construction of Indoor Stadium cat.III at Pfitsero No. F. 20-12/98-SP.I	10.00
14.	Tamilnadu—Grants for construction of Swimming pool (Cat.II) at Dolphin club, JJ. Nagar Moyappais West, Chennai No. F. 25-4/2003-SP.I	22.50

1	2	3
15.	Govt. of Tamilnadu—Grants for construction of Outdoor Stadium of outdoor Stadium (Cat.I) and outdoor playfields in Distt. Sports complex at Tiruvarur. No. F. 25-6/2001-SP.I	23.00
16.	Govt. of Himachal Pradesh—Grants for construction of Ice Skating Rink at Shimla No. F. 11-2/1999-SP.I	37.43
17.	Govt. of Tamilnadu—Grants for Distt. Level Sports Complex at Villupuram No. F. 25-24/2000-SP.I	9.25
18.	Govt. of Himachal Pradesh—Construction of Swimming Pool at UNA No. F. 11-2/93-SP.I	3.00
19.	Govt. of Maharashtra—Grants for construction of Swimming pool cat.I at Katol, Maharashtra Distt. Nagaon, Municipal No. F. 16-8/23003-SP.I	40.00
20.	Govt. of UP—Grants for construction of Outdoor Stadium(Cat.I) at Kalhatt, Mirzapur, Raydeep Smarak Samity No. F. 27-7/2002-SP.I	15.215
21.	Govt. of Tamilnadu—Grants for construction of Stadium(Cat.I) at Rajan thattean Mayiladuthural, Distt. Nagapattinam No. F. 25-2/2003-SP.I	18.00
22.	Govt. of Himachal Pradesh—Grants for construction of Basketball court at Govt. Sec.School, Balakrupi, Kangra, No. F. 11-12/2001-SP.I	0.07250
23.	UP—Grants for construction of Playfield at Saffai, Etawah No. F. 27-10/2003-SP.I	24.00
24.	MP—Grants for construction of Outdoor Stadium, Morena No. F. 6-136/86-SP.I	3.00
25.	Tamilnadu—Grants for construction of Distt. Level Sports Complex at Dindigul No. F. 25-6/99-SP.I	13.25
26.	UP—Construction of Indoor Stadium Cat.III at Vill. Pijokhara, Muzaffarnagar. No. F. 27-8/2002-SP.I	2.50
27.	Nagaland—construction of Indoor Stadium cat.III at Chizami by Secikya Society Nagaland	14.01
28.	UP—Grants for construction of Sports Hostel at Saffair, Etawah (Secy. Sports & Youth Deptt. Govt. of UP, Lucknow, No. F. 27-9/2003-SP.I	15.00

1	2	3
29.	Assam—Construction of Indoor Stadium Cat.III at Tezpur(president, Tazpur Distt. Sports Assam, Polo Field Tezpur, Distt. Sonitpur, Assam No. F. 6-2/98-SP.I	3.00
30.	Govt. of Tamilnadu—Construction of Distt. Level Sports Complex at Tiruvaunanalai, Tamilnadu No. F. 25-3/2003-SP.I	19.20
31.	Maharashtra—Construction of Indoor Stadium Cat.I at Sangali(Managing Trustee Rajarambabu Patil Ednoment Trust, PO Sakharale Distt. Sangli No. F. 16-11/99-SP.I	33.23
32.	Tamilnadu—Construction of Swimming Pool (Cat.I) at Ettimadu Village, Coimbatore (Mata Amritanandamayi Math, Ettimadai Vill Distt. Coimbatore No. F. 25-8/2003-SP.I	45.00
33.	Himachal Pradesh—Construction of Distt. Level Sports Complex, Una. No. F. 11-3/98-SP.I	8.13
34.	Haryana—Construction of Indoor Stadium(Cat.I) at Village—Garhi Bohar Distt. Rohtak (Chairman Sindhu Edu. Foundation, New Delhi.) No. F. 10-4/2003-SP.I	15.00
35.	Rajasthan—Construction of Basketball court at Govt. Girls Hr.Sec.School, Deogarh, Distt. Rajasmand No. F. 23-2/2000-SP.I	0.0500

Environment Clearance for Tanahali Power Project

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

2954. SHRI PRATIK P. PATIL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

[Translation]

(a) whether a proposal from the State Government of Maharashtra for Tanahali Power Project is pending with the Union Government for environmental clearance;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which the proposal is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) No Sir.

NH Project in Punjab

2955. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of National Highways in Punjab on which the work of widening, expansion and maintenance has been started/approved during the last three years, till date;

(b) the amount spent and likely to be spent in this regard;

(c) whether the Government has approved the widening of NH-1A in Punjab;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the land has been acquired for the project particularly in Tanda and Dasuya and compensation to the affected person has been given; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) The work of widening, expansion and maintenance have been approved for National Highways No. 1, 1A, 10, 15, 20, 21, 22, 64, 64A, 70, 71 & 95 in the State of Punjab during last three years.

(b) During the last three years, nearly Rs. 509 crore has been spent on widening, expansion and improvement of National Highways in Punjab and Rs. 62 crore has been spent for their maintenance. During the current year (2007-08), the expenditure on widening, expansion and improvement of National Highways in Punjab is likely to be about Rs. 478 crore and on their maintenance will be Rs. 18 crore.

(c) to (f) Yes, Sir. The widening to four lane from Jalandhar to Punjab/J&K border of National Highway-1A has been approved under NHDP Phase II (North-South Corridor) in Punjab. Acquisition of land for the project including land of Tanda and Dasuya is under process. Compensation to the affected persons is under finalization in NHAI in consultation with concerned competent authorities.

[English]

Foreign Assistance for HIV/AIDS

2956. SHRI M.K. SUBBA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Australia has announced further aid for combating spread of HIV/AIDS in the States of Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram and Meghalaya;

(b) if so, the total Australian aid committee to N.E. States and such assistance received by each State so far; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government for HIV/AIDS prevention and control programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. Australian Government has committed to provide Australian Dollars 10 million (equivalent to US Dollars 8.2 million) for combating spread of HIV/AIDS in the four North Eastern states of Manipur, Nagaland, Mizoram and Meghalaya. Funds are yet to be received.

(c) Phase III of the National AIDS Control Programme has been formulated to control the spread of HIV by scaling targeted interventions among high risk groups, behaviour change communication for improved awareness, expanding preventive care, blood safety, support and treatment of HIV infected persons including the treatment of HIV infected persons including the treatment of opportunistic infections, provision of anti-retroviral treatment and mainstreaming of HIV interventions strategies.

Ganguly Panel on Stem Cell

2957. SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Shri S.K. Ganguly Panel has submitted its final report for stem cell;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the report is likely to be submitted to the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) According to the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), there is no such panel for developing guidelines for stem cells.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Welfare Centres for Indians Abroad

2958. SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to open welfare centres to help Indians abroad;

(b) if so, the locations of these centres;

(c) the nature of services to be rendered by these centres;

(d) whether these centres will help Indian brides abandoned in foreign countries; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) and (b) Government has decided to set up an Overseas Indian Center at Dubai to assist the Overseas Indians in the Gulf countries. Besides, posts of Counsellors, Community Affairs (Development) have been created in Washington and Kuala Lumpur, as part of Indian Missions in these countries. The Counsellor in Washington will cater to the Overseas Indians in USA and Canada and Counsellor in Kuala Lumpur will cater to the Overseas Indians in Malaysia, Singapore and Brunei.

(c) The proposed Overseas Indian Center and Counselors will primarily function as the overseas field formations of the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs. They will inter-alia promote public-private partnerships with overseas Indian apex organizations and professional institutions. They will also provide for legal, financial and health counseling for the benefit of overseas Indians.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs has announced a scheme for giving legal/financial assistance to women deserted by their overseas Indian spouses. Under the Scheme counseling and legal services would be provided through credible Indian Women's Organizations/Indian Community Associations and NGOs empanelled with the Indian Missions in the USA, UK, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and the Gulf.

[Translation]

Financial Assistance to NGOs for Health Schemes

2959. SHRI M. ANJAN KUMAR YADAV: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government provides financial assistance to Non-Governmental Organisations for implementation of various health schemes in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years and the assistance provided to each Non-Governmental Organisations thereunder;

(c) whether the Government has reviewed functions of those Non-Governmental Organisations;

(d) if so, the names of NGOs which have committed irregularities; and

(e) the action taken against them, till-date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) Yes Sir, the Government of India provides assistance to NGOs in Andhra Pradesh through the Mother NGO and Service NGO Schemes.

(b) The details are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) The State Health Society of the Government of Andhra Pradesh reviews the functioning of the NGOs.

(d) No such report has been received from the State Government.

(e) Does not arise in view of above.

Statement

The grant-in-aid released to the NGOs working in Andhra Pradesh during the last three years i.e. 2004-05, 2005-06 & 2006-07

Name of the Organization		Financial Year	Grant-in-Aid released (in Rupees)
1		2	3
1.	St. Peter's Multipurpose Health Workers (F) Development Society, Tenali, Andhra Pradesh	2004-05	Rs. 1,29,984
2.	Rahul's Medical and Health Services Society, Mahabubnagar, Andhra Pradesh	2004-05	Rs. 7,65,110

	1	2	3
3.	Health Education Agricultural Development Society, Anantpur, Andhra Pradesh	2004-05	Rs. 300,000
4.	State SCOVA Societies, Andhra Pradesh	2005-06	Rs. 82,50,000
5.	Hindustan Latex Family Planning Promotion Trust	2006-07	Rs. 15,19,005

[English]

Restructuring of CIL

2960. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to restructure the Coal India Ltd. (CIL) and its subsidiaries;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith financial implications in this regard; and

(c) the amount likely to be spent by CIL in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) and (b) The Expert Committee constituted in the Ministry of coal to draw a road map for coal sector is considering the issue of "Restructuring of CIL to make it a world class company". The Committee's report in this regard is awaited.

(c) No estimate of financial implications/amount likely to be spent is made.

Chronic Energy Deficiency

2961. SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has undertaken any study to define the dietary intake needed to correct the chronic energy deficiency among women, adolescents, children and elderly people in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) The Indian Council of Medical Research (1989) has formulated the Recommended Dietary Allowances (RDA) for the various groups of population in order to have a normal growth, development and vital functions.

Chronic Energy Deficiency (LCD) is assessed by Body Mass Index (BMI) which is weight (kg) divided by Height (mtrs.)². Persons with BMI values 20 to 25 are considered as normal. The degree of Chronic Energy Deficiency is as per the following table.

BMI	Nutritional Grade
<16.0	III Degree CED
16.0-17.0	II Degree CED
17.0-18.5	I Degree CED
18.5-20.0	Low Normal
20.0-25.0	Normal

A copy of the RDA for Indians is given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

Recommended Dietary Allowances for Indians (Macronutrients and Minerals)

Group	Particulars	Body Wt./kg.	Net Energy Kcal/d	Protein g/d	Fat g/d	Calcium Mg/d	Iron Mg/d
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Man	Sedentary work		2425				
	Moderate work	60	2875	60	20	400	28
	Heavy work		3800				

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Woman	Sedentary work		1875	50	20	400	30
	Moderate work	50	2225				
	Heavy work		2925				
	Pregnant woman	50	+300	+15	30	1000	38
	Lactation						
	0-6 months	50	+550	+25	45	1000	30
	6-12 months		+400	+18			
Infants	0-6 months	5.4	108/kg.	2.05/kg.		500	
	6-12 months	8.6	98/kg.	1.65/kg.			
Children	1-3 years	12.2	1240	22	25	400	12
	4-6 years	19.0	1690	30			18
	7-9 years	26.9	1950	41			26
Boys	10-12 years	35.4	2190	54	22	600	34
Girls	10-12 years	31.5	1970	57			19
Boys	13-15 years	47.8	2450	70	22	600	41
Girls	13-15 years	46.7	2060	65			28
Boys	16-18 years	57.1	2640	78	22	500	50
Girls	16-18 years	49.9	2060	63			30

[Translation]

Training for Uneducated Indians going Abroad

2962. SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to provide training to the illiterate and less educated people moving to foreign countries particularly to the Gulf countries for employment;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the funds earmarked for the purpose and amount released thereunder during 2006-07 State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) and (b) The Ministry of

Overseas Indian Affairs has formulated a scheme 'Orientation-cum-Training Programme for overseas Indian workers' in the year 2006-07 in consultation with the State Governments. Under this Scheme, the Ministry bears 75% of the expenditure on training, up to a ceiling of Rs. 1 crore per State. The aim of the scheme is to upgrade the skill level of Indian emigrants at par with the overseas market requirement and to equip them with a basic knowledge about laws, language and culture of the destination country. In the current financial year the scheme is being expanded in partnership with the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium enterprises to cover a larger number of trades.

(c) The scheme was launched on a pilot basis in five states and the total funds to the tune of Rs. 4 crore were earmarked for the purpose during 2006-07. The state-wise details of funds released are as under:

Andhra Pradesh	—	Rs. 50 lakh
Tamil Nadu	—	Rs. 1 crore
Punjab	—	Rs. 65.61 lakh
Kerala	—	Rs. 1 crore
Karnataka	—	Rs. 84.39 lakh

[English]

Marine Pollution

2963. PROF. M. RAMADASS: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the existing norms with respect to levels of marine pollution;

(b) the level of marine pollution recorded along the coastline of the country during the last three years, location-wise;

(c) whether the pollution levels are within the established norms; and

(d) if not, the steps taken to check the increasing levels of contamination?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Based on the best designated use, the following five water quality criteria have been specified with respect to levels of marine pollution:

SW-I Salt pans, Shell fishing, Mariculture and Ecologically Sensitive Zone.

SW-II Bathing, Contact water sports and Commercial fishing.

SW-III Industrial cooling, Recreation (non-contact) and Aesthetics.

SW-IV Harbour.

SW-V Navigation and Controlled Waste Disposal.

(b) and (c) The Department of Ocean Development(DOD), Ministry of Earth Sciences under the "Coastal Ocean Monitoring and Prediction System (COMAPS)" has set up about 76 locations to monitor the trends of pollution levels along the coast line of the country. Results obtained from these locations indicates

that coastal water of the country beyond 2 km. from the coast are free from pollution except in the sea off Mumbai where it is clean beyond 5 km from the coast. Further, marine pollution along the country's coast is localized and found only at few locations. These locations are Digha and Sandheads (West Bengal), Puri and Gopalpur (Orissa), Vizag and Kakinada (Andhra Pradesh), Cuddalore and Tuticorin (Tamil Nadu), Veraval (Gujarat) etc.

The overall comparison of results indicate that at majority of the locations, bacterial levels exceed the prescribed limits. However, in case of coastal waters of Mumbai, dissolved oxygen was below the prescribed limit.

(d) The steps taken to control marine pollution are as under:

- Setting up of Effluent Treatment Plants (ETPs) and Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETPs) by various industries to comply with the required discharge standards;
- Monitoring of Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) by the Coastal Municipalities to check pollution from domestic sewage.
- Regular inspection of industries to ensure compliance with environmental norms;
- Issuing directions under various Environmental Acts in cases of non-compliance.

Committee on Financial Sector Reforms

2964. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has set up a high level member Committee on Financial Sector Reforms as reported in the Financial Express dated August 8, 2007;

(b) if so, the details of the composition of the Committee and its terms of reference;

(c) the details of mega social sector programmes to be examined by the said Committee; and

(d) the time by which the said Committee will submit its report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a), (b) and

(d) Planning Commission has set up a High Level Committee on Financial Sector ' Reforms under the Chairmanship of Shri Raghuram G. Rajan, Professor, Graduate School of Business University of Chicago. The other members of the Committee are:

- (i) Suman Bery, Director General, NCAER.
- (ii) Uday Kotak, CEO, Kotak Mahindra Bank.
- (iii) Rajiv Lall, CEO, IDFC.
- (iv) Vijay Mahajan, Chairman, Basix.
- (v) Zia Mody, Senior Partner, AZB Partners.
- (vi) O.P. Bhatt, Chairman, State Bank of India.
- (vii) K.V. Kamath, MD & CEO, ICICI Bank.
- (viii) Chitra Ramakrishna, Deputy MD, NSE.
- (ix) R. Ravimohan, MD & CEO, CRISIL.
- (x) J.R. Verma, Professor, Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad.
- (xi) R. Sridharan, Adviser (FR), Planning Commission.

The Terms of Reference of the Committee are:

- (i) To identify the emerging challenges in meeting the financing needs of the Indian economy in the coming decade and to identify real sector reforms that would allow those needs to be more easily met by the financial sector.
- (ii) To examine the performance of various segments of the financial sector and identify changes that will allow it to meet the needs of the real sector.
- (iii) To identify changes in the regulatory and the supervisory infrastructure that can better allow the financial sector to play its role, while ensuring that risks are contained; and
- (iv) To identify changes in other areas of the economy - including in the conduct of monetary and fiscal policy, and the operation of the legal system and the educational system - that could help the financial sector function more effectively.

The Committee is expected to submit its report by 31st March, 2008.

(c) Examination of mega social sector programmes does not fall within the purview of the Committee.

Smuggling of Sandalwood

2965. SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether large-scale smuggling of important trees, particularly Sandalwood/Teak has been reported;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard;

(d) whether a large consignment of red sandalwood being smuggled from the country was seized at Nepal-China border recently;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether some officials were also found to be involved in the said matter;

(g) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard;

(h) whether the Ministry proposes to depute para military forces for protecting the forests in Naxal affected areas; and

(i) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY):

(a) to (g) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(h) There is no such proposal.

(i) Dose not arise.

Compulsory Eye Donation

2966. SHRI MILIND DEORA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to introduce a Central Legislation to make Eye Donation compulsory for all accidental deaths like that of the Western Countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/ proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) No, Sir. There is no proposal to introduce a Central Legislation to make Eye Donation compulsory for all accidental deaths like that of the Western Countries.

(c) The following steps have been taken to meet the shortage of donated eyes:

- (i) Increase public awareness.
- (ii) Promote hospital cornea retrieval programme.
- (iii) Provision for posting of grief counselors.
- (iv) Public education with steps to prevent infection, injuries etc. to reduce the demand for corneas.
- (v) Better quality of cataract surgery to reduce iatrogenic corneal damage.
- (vi) Better quality of eye banking medical standards and services.
- (vii) Post operative care to prolong graft survival and reduce need for re-grafts.

Report on Spurious Drugs in India

2967. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:
CH. MUNAWAR HASSAN:
SHRIMATI MANORAMA MADHAVRAJ:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been five-fold increase in the counterfeit drugs in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether European Commission has recently released figures of fake drugs;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) There is no data available to indicate that there has been five fold increase in counterfeit drugs in the country.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) As per news item that appeared in the Times of India dated 14.06.2007, it mentions that as per the report of European Commission counterfeit drugs worth US dollars 2.7 million were seized in year 2006 against 5 lakhs a year ago.

The matter was taken up with European Commission and it was revealed that the figure was obtained from the European Commission Directorate General of Taxation and Customs Union (DG TAXUD) which published the 2006 statistics of counterfeit goods seized at EU Customs Borders. The report has included goods which infringe the Intellectual Property Rights (IPR). The details of allegedly counterfeit medicine were not made available by the European Commission.

[Translation]

Reservation In Education Field

2968. SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Knowledge Commission has opposed the implementation of reservation in the education field;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether the policy of implementation of reservation for the backward, weaker section and dalit communities at every stage of education is proposed to be withdrawn; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) to (d) The National Knowledge Commission in Section VII of its

Recommendations says that it is essential that access to education for economically and historically socially underprivileged students is enhanced in a substantially more effective manner. The NKC has also recommended a deprivation index covering economic backwardness, poverty, caste and community backwardness, social indicators such as family education history, place of residence, type of school attended, physical disability etc. for affirmative action. Extracts from the note on higher Education of the National Knowledge Commission in enclosed as statement.

Statement

Education is an essential mechanism for inclusion through the creation of social opportunities. It is, therefore, essential that in addition to ensuring that no student is denied the opportunity to participate in higher education due to financial constraints, access to education for economically and historically socially underprivileged students is enhanced in a substantially more effective manner.

Economic barriers to higher education can be addressed by ensuring financial viability for all students wanting to enter the world of higher education. This can be done through two strategies. One is to adopt a *needs blind admissions* policy. This would make it unlawful for educational institutions to take into account any financial factor while deciding whether or not to admit a student. Every institution will be free to use a variety of instruments to achieve this aim: scholarships or cross-subsidies. In addition, academic institutions would be able to set a fee of their own choice subject to the provision that there are at least two banks that are willing to finance the entire cost of education at that institution, without any collateral other than the fact of admission. The cost of education includes not just fees but also reasonable living expenses including costs such as hostel and mess fees and any other expenses associated with the course of study. Since commercial banks may be wary of funding economically deprived students, especially in non-professional courses, we need a well-funded and extensive National Scholarship Scheme targeting economically underprivileged students and students from historically socially disadvantaged groups, particularly students from rural and backward areas. The success of this proposal depends on generous government support. For instance, the government should endeavour to make available about 100,000 scholarships for such students. These scholarships should be set at a level where students are empowered to go to any institution of their choice.

We also need to undertake more proactive forms of affirmative action to ensure inclusion of marginal and excluded groups. Reservations are essential but they are a part, and one form of affirmative action. Disparities in educational attainments are related to caste and social groups but are also strongly related to other indicators such as income, gender, region and place of residence. Access to quality higher education is further limited for students from certain types of schools. Therefore deprivation of educational opportunities is a multi-dimensional problem and attention needs to be paid to different salient levels of deprivation faced by students. A meaningful and comprehensive framework would account for the multidimensionality of differences that still persist. Such a deprivation index could provide weighted scores to students and the cumulative score could be used to supplement a student's school examination score. After adding the score from the deprivation index, all students could compete for admissions.

The indicators need to be easily identifiable and verifiable for the system to work effectively. They should cover the different types of disadvantages that a student could face at the school level, and while applying for admissions to higher education. This system serves the dual purpose of considering various disadvantages and ensuring that a reserved category student who has otherwise enjoyed other benefits does not get great preference at the time of admissions.

Illustrative indicators of backwardness that need to be measured by such an index could include *social background* covering caste (keeping in view regional variations), religion and gender, *family education history*, *family income*, *type of school* distinguishing between government and private schools and between schools from different locations, the medium of instruction, *place of residence* distinguishing between urban and rural areas and accounting for regional deprivation by sorting districts along an index of infrastructure or access to social benefits and *physical disability*.

[English]

Allocation for Muslim Education

2969. SHRI VIJOY KRISHNA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a sub-committee of the Planning Commission has recommended for allocation of a sum of

Rs. 5460 crores in the Eleventh Five Year Plan for education of Muslims in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the innovative methods and programmes initiated;

(c) the details of the Eleven Point Programme envisaged for the Muslims by the subcommittee; and

(d) the method of coordination with HRD Ministry and others for implementing the recommendations of the sub-committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) to (d) In the context of the formulation of the Eleventh Five Year Plan (2007-2012), the Planning Commission constituted a Working Group on "Empowering the Minorities". The Working Group formed three sub-groups, one of which was on educational development. The submissions of these sub-groups were internal to the deliberations of the Working Group and were taken into account while finalizing the report of the Working Group submitted to the Planning Commission. The Planning Commission has not finalized the Eleventh Plan as yet.

Scheduled Plan for Commonwealth Games 2010

2970. SHRIMATI JHANSI LAKSHMI BOTCHA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the planning for the Commonwealth Games 2010 is not as per schedule as per the report of the Evaluation Commission headed by Austin Sealy;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(d) the efforts made by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ, MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Government are conscious of the need to ensure proper planning and timely preparation for the

Commonwealth Games, 2010 and to this end a number of institutional arrangements have been made. These include a Core Group of Ministers (GoM) under the co-Chairmanship of the Minister for Human Resource Development and the Home Minister for coordinating the various works related to the conduct of the Games; an Apex Committee headed by the Minister for Youth Affairs and Sports to oversee preparations; an Organizing Committee (OC) headed by the President, Indian Olympic Association for the conduct of the Games; and a Committee of Secretaries headed by Cabinet Secretary which is responsible for monitoring the implementation of the decisions of the GoM and taking decisions on other related matters. In addition to these arrangements at the Central level, there is a sub-committee under the Chief Minister of Delhi to take decisions in respect of all matters pertaining to infrastructure and other preparations for the Games within the jurisdiction of the Government of NCT of Delhi.

The Lt. Governor Delhi has been entrusted with the overall responsibility for matters coming under DDA and with specific reference to security and law and order.

Locations for the various competitions/training venues and International Broadcasting Centre (IBC)/Main Press Centre (MPC) have been agreed among the stakeholders. All stakeholders have indicated specific time-lines with reference to key milestones, viz., finalization of detailed designs and estimates, commencement of the tendering process, award of the work, commencement of the work, completion of the work; and handing over to OC. It is expected that work on all the major sports venue infrastructure projects will commence before December, 2007 and the venues will be handed over to the OC by the end of 2009. An Empowered Committee has been set up under the chairmanship of Chief Secretary, GNCTD, with representatives from all the agencies/authorities concerned to facilitate speedy clearances in respect of Games-related projects. Another Committee has been set up by under Secretary, Ministry of Urban Development to facilitate clearances pertaining to the Delhi Urban Arts Commission (DUAC). Keeping in view the need for developing adequate tourist accommodation in readiness for the large expected influx of visitors to the Commonwealth Games, an inter-Ministerial Task Force has been set up under the Ministry of Tourism (MoT) for monitoring and coordinating further action in this regard by all the agencies concerned. A Committee for expediting Central Government clearances in respect of hotels coming up in Uttar Pradesh has also been set up under the

Chairmanship of Secretary, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.

To improve the performance of the Indian contingent in the Commonwealth Games, 2010, extensive discussions have been held with all stakeholders and a programme for providing training, foreign exposure, scientific backup, equipment etc., at an estimated cost of Rs. 661.00 crore, has been drawn up for the elite sportspersons who will represent India in the Commonwealth Games, 2010.

Government have approved project proposals of the Sports Authority of India for an amount of Rs.1000 crores ($\pm 10\%$) for the upgradation/creation of sports venue infrastructure; upgradation of the tennis venue by the All India Tennis Association at a cost of Rs.30 crores ($\pm 15\%$); and expenditure budget for the Organizing Committee on a revenue neutral basis of Rs.767 crores ($\pm 15\%$) for the 'Conduct of the Games'. The Expenditure Finance Committee have recommended the proposal of the Delhi Development Authority for Rs.325.00 crores ($\pm 25\%$) for the International Zone etc. in the Games village (which is being developed in the Public Private Partnership Mode) and sports infrastructure at the village.

The Planning Commission have approved the proposal of the Government of the NCT of Delhi for an amount of Rs.770.00 crores. Planning Commission have also approved an amount of Rs. 110.00 crores to the Government of Maharashtra for sports infrastructure for the Commonwealth Youth Games, 2008 to be held in Pune, which is a sub-event of the main Commonwealth Games 2010.

[Translation]

Removal of Workers of CIL

2971. SHRI BHUVANESHWAR PRASAD MEHTA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether during the last three years, more than 15000 workers have been allegedly removed on the basis of long absence from service in Coal India Limited and particularly in CCL, ECL and BCCL, out of which 95% workers belong to SC, ST and the OBC categories;

(b) if so, the details thereof, categories-wise;

(c) whether the Government proposes to reinstate all the workers;

(d) the number of ancillary companies of Coal India Ltd. including the South-Eastern Coalfields which have reinstated these workers; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The services of only 2017 employees of all categories including SC, ST & OBC were terminated due to proved misconduct of long absenteeism in these three companies as detailed below:

Year	Central Coalfields Limited	Eastern Coalfields Limited	Bharat Coking Coal Limited	Total
2004-05	156	310	413	879
2005-06	101	174	308	583
2006-07	74	130	351	555
Total	331	614	1072	2017

(c) No, Sir. The certified Standing Orders applicable for the workmen, inter-alia, has provisions for the terminated employees to make appeal to the Appellate Authority. Such appeals, as and when received, are considered on merit by the Appellate Authority. Reinstatement is made only on the basis of the decision of the Appellate Authority on the merit of the individual case. The prescribed procedure for reinstatement of workers is being followed by Coal India Limited and its Subsidiary Companies.

(d) and (e) Number of employees reinstated Company-wise is given below:-

Company	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
Eastern Coalfields Limited	24	22	22
Bharat Coking Coal Limited	72	32	59
Central Coalfields Limited	02	02	07
Western Coalfields Limited	07	06	06
South Eastern Coalfields Limited	32	27	65
Mahanadi Coalfields Limited	—	—	04
Total	137	89	163

*(English)***Congestion in various Major Ports**

2972. DR. M. JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether FICCI in their Report has reported that public investment and lack of interest on private players for investing in Port Projects have resulted in congestion in various Major Ports;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken/being taken in this regard;

(d) whether the Government proposes to increase public investment in modernization and expansion of ports so as to remove congestion in ports; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (e) In a Background Paper released to the Press on 14.7.2007 on the "Strategy for development of Ports and Shipping" the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industries (FICCI) has, inter-alia, observed that low public investment in creating world class ports and shipping infrastructure, lack of interest on the part of private players in investing on these projects (primarily due to long gestation period, low Internal Rate of Return (IRR) and complex procedures and regulations) have resulted in congestion at various Major Ports causing business inefficiencies, high transaction costs and thereby making Indian ports less competitive.

Government has taken note of the Background Paper. Modernization and expansion of ports is an ongoing process. Keeping in view the demands of maritime trade, under the National Maritime Development Programme (NMDP) launched by the Government in December 2005, a total of 387 projects (276 for Major Ports and 111 for Shipping and Inland Water Transport), have been identified to be taken up for implementation over a defined period. The Programme will facilitate focused and accelerated investment in specific infrastructure including port infrastructure, tonnage acquisition and institutional capacity building. Total investment envisaged in the Programme is Rs.100,339 crores out of which Rs.55,804 crores is for

Major Ports and the balance Rs.44,535 crores is for Shipping and Inland Water Transport (IWT) sectors. Out of Rs.55,804 crores for the Major Ports an investment of Rs.34,505 crores is expected from the private sector and the balance through Government budgetary support and Internal and External Budgetary Resources (IEBR) of the Major Ports.

A total of 276 projects have been identified in the Major Ports under the NMDP for implementation by 2011-12. These projects cover the entire gamut of activities in the ports including construction of new berths, upgradation of existing berths, deepening of port channels to receive large size ships, equipment upgradation and modernization, rail/road connectivity and other associated projects. The Programme will be implemented through Public Private Partnership. While Public funds will be utilized for creating common user infrastructure, private sector investment is envisaged in commercially viable projects like development and operations of berths/terminals etc.

To facilitate smooth flow of traffic through the Major Ports, during the 11th Five Year Plan period, the aggregate capacity in the Major Ports is planned to be enhanced to a level of 1001.80 million tonnes per annum (MTPA) as against the projected traffic of 708.09 million tonnes (MT) during the year 2011-12

Sports in Concurrent Lists

2973. SHRI B. MAHTAB: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal to include Sports in the Concurrent List of the Constitution is under consideration;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which the final decision would be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ, MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A Constitutional Amendment Bill for the transfer of the entry of sports from the State List to the

Concurrent List was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 24.11.1988, but was not pursued although it was indicated to cabinet that a majority of State Governments had approved the proposal. The draft Comprehensive National Sports Policy reiterates the need to transfer the subject of "Sports" from the State List to the Concurrent List in the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India. The draft is in the consultative process.

(d) It is not possible to fix a time-frame for finalization of this proposal as detailed discussions are at present underway with all stakeholders, including State Governments.

[Translation]

Publicity of RTI Act

2974. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD:
SHRI MILIND DEORA:
SHRI SARVEY SATYANARAYANA:
SHRI JASUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD:
SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a need to create awareness about RTI Act;

(b) if so, the details of advertisements and books published by the Government to create awareness among the people with the fund spent for the purpose during the year 2005-2006 and 2006-07;

(c) whether there is huge paucity of funds for publicity of RTI Act as reported in the Hindustan Times dated June 18, 2007;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if no, the reasons therefore; and

(f) the corrective steps taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity had launched a campaign in 2006 for propagating awareness about the Right to Information Act, 2005. Further initiatives have also been taken up for publicity of the act through media.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) to (f) Do not arise.

[English]

Deputation to Private Sectors/NGOs

2975. SHRIMATI YASHODHARA RAJE SCINDIA:
SHRI M. RAJA MOHAN REDDY:
SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD.
SHRI TUKARAM GANPAT RAO RENGE PATIL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of IAS/IRS Officers resigned from their service during the last three years and current year, till date, year-wise;

(b) the steps taken by the Union Government to curb this trend,

(c) the number of IAS/Government officers who have taken up foreign assignments or joined Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs)/Private Sector, during the last three years and the current year, till date, year-wise;

(d) the guidelines laid down by the Government to allow Government officers to resign and join NGOs/Private Sectors;

(e) whether IAS Officers are allowed to join NGOs/Private Sectors by granting relaxation in this regard;

(f) whether such relaxation is also being granted to Government employees of other cadres;

(g) if not, the reasons therefore;

(h) whether the Government has received any complaint regarding such officers on deputation providing benefits to the concerned Private Sector Companies by using their influence resulting in losses to the Government; and

(i) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI):

(a) As per available record, the requisite information is given below:

YEAR	IAS	IRS
2004	02	04
2005	03	07
2006	02	12
2007 (till date)	01	07

Details as per statement I to III enclosed.

(b) 6th Central Pay Commission has been constituted by the Government of India to work out a comprehensive pay package for the categories of Central Government employees etc. and also to harmonize the functioning of the Central Government Organisations with the demands of the emerging global economic scenario. This will also take into account, among other relevant factors, the totality of benefits available to the employees, need of rationalization/simplification thereof, the prevailing pay structure and retirement benefits available under the Central Public Sector Undertakings.

(c) During the last three years and the current year, till date—On foreign assignment (IAS) 51 (Information, in respect of Non-IAS officers on foreign assignment, is not centrally maintained).

Under Rule 6(2)(ii) of the IAS (Cadre) Rules, 1954 which includes NGOs/Private Sector. 64

(d) to (g) the government has laid down no guidelines to allow government officers including IAS Officers to resign from government service and join NGOs/Private Sectors. However, there are rules and guidelines regarding securing commercial employment after government officers retire from government service.

(h) and (i) No such reports have been received.

Statement I

List of members of the IAS who resigned during the last three years and current year, till date.

S.No.	Name	Date of resignation.
1.	Sanjeev Sabhlok, IAS (AM:82)	20/1/2004
2.	Iqbal Singh Dhaliwal	21/10/2004
3.	A.K. Jha, IAS (BH:89)	13/1/2005
4.	Supravin Kumar, IAS(HY:99)	27/5/2005
5.	S.V. Iyer, IAS (MP:81)	8/8/2005
6.	Shri Rajeev Tatwar, IAS(AGMUT:78)	29/8/2006
7.	Shri Sanjay Narayen, AS(MH:76)	1/11/2006
8.	Ms. Esther Ninghauvung Hanghal, IAS (Prob) 2005 batch.	27/7/2007

Statement II

Details of IRS (C&CE) officers resigned from their service during the last three years and current year, till date, year-wise

Year	S. No.	Name of the officer(s) (S/Shri)	Designation	Date of Resignation
1	2	3	4	5
2004	1.	M.K. Sherwani	Dy. Director	13.12.2004
	2.	prashant Kumar	Asstt. Commissioner	3.9.2004
	3.	Rajesh Kumar	Dy. Commissioner	9.9.2004
	4.	A.V. Solanki	Asstt. Director	26.3.2004

1	2	3	4	5
2005	5.	Srivinas Tata	Asstt. Commissioner	8.7.2005
	6.	K. Jawahrmnche	-do-	21.4.2005
	7.	Atul Gupta	Addl. Commissioner	27.4.2005
	8.	Dr. Waman Parkhi	Joint Commissioner	10.1.2005
	9.	B.B. Reddy	Asstt. Commissioner	22.12.2005
2006	10.	Harjinder Singh	-do-	20.2.2006
	11.	Virag Gupta	-do-	17.2.2006
	12.	Poonam	Probationer	-do-
	13.	D.N. Choudhary	Joint Commissioner	30.6.2006
	14.	Manish Srivastava	-do-	27.7.2006
	15.	Sanjay Agrawal	Asstt. Commissioner	31.8.2006
	16.	Dr. Satish T. Dongre	Joint Commissioner	16.3.2006
2007	17.	P. Sara Vanan	Asstt. Commissioner	16.3.2006
	18.	P. Vinay Kumar	Addl. Commissioner	18.1.2007
	19.	K.R. Choudhary	Asstt. Commissioner	6.2.2007
	20.	P.G. Shah	-do-	28.2.2007
	21.	Ramakant Singh	-do-	31.5.2007
	22.	Bipin Sapra	Addl. Commissioner	15.6.2007

Statement III

*List of IRS(IT) Officials who have resigned from IRS
(as on 30.8.2007) in last 10 years*

Sl.No.	Name	Date of resignation
1	2	3
1.	R.C. Meena	5.3.98
2.	Sanjay Yashrey	18.9.98
3.	R.S. Puri	19.11.98
4.	Kunal Madnukar	9.4.99
5.	G. Krishna Kishore	7.7.99
6.	J.B.S. Gill	20.10.99
7.	Papia Ghosh Bhalla	1.12.2000

1	2	3
8.	Kalyan Krit Ray	15.12.2000
9.	U.S. Bhatti	28.5.2002
10.	Ram Rai	11.7.03
11.	A.K. Sinha	7.2.03
12.	Sahil Gupta	24.1.05
13.	Monika Mohanty	11.8.05
14.	Rekha Diwakar	10.3.06
15.	Neena Lath Gupta	10.4.06
16.	B.D. Sinha	7.7.06
17.	Raja Laxmi Kamat	29.11.06
18.	G.S.D. Babu	25.6.2007
19.	Himanshu Shekhar Sinha	27.8.07

**Donations Collected from Employees of
Coal India Limited**

2976. SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU:
SHRI JASUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD:
SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR DUBEY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the employees of Coal India Limited (CIL) and its subsidiaries including South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL) had collected money for depositing in the PM Relief Fund;

(b) if so, the details thereof, company-wise and subsidiary-wise;

(c) whether the CIL and its subsidiaries had not deposited the collected money in PM Relief Fund;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government against the erring officials?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) to (e)

Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the house.

Persons killed by Wild Elephants

2977. SHRI TEK LAL MAHTO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons died and the number of houses damaged in the mayhem caused by the wild elephants in Jharkhand in the last three years;

(b) the number of persons who have been paid compensation by the Government so far;

(c) the action taken by the Government to check the mayhem caused by wild elephants and the details of the amount spent in this regard, year-wise and district-wise; and

(d) the amounts spent by the Government, for chasing away the wild elephants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY):

(a) to (d) As per the information received from the State Government, the details in respect of Jharkhand are as follows:

Year	No. of persons Killed	No. of incidents of house damages, crop damages etc.	Amount spent for checking mayhem (in lakhs)	Amount spent for chasing away wild elephants (in lakhs)
2004-05	63	3645	Rs. 72.73	Rs. 24.54
2005-06	91	5501	Rs. 43.80	Rs. 26.90
2006-07	67	7849	Rs. 120.678	Rs. 25.48

Compensation to the tune of rupees one lakh for each adult and rupees fifty thousand for each minor has been paid to the dependants/kins of 220 persons killed by wild elephants during the last three years. Compensation against one adult person could not be paid as the deceased was unmarried and did not have any dependant or any of the parents alive. The amounts to check mayhems caused by wild elephants have been spent in districts of Hazaribagh, Dhanbad, Bokaro, Dumka, Singhbhum (E), Singhbhum(W) and Saraikela.

Protection of Nuclear Material

2978. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has decided to ratify the Amendment adopted in 2005 to an IAEA convention on physical protection of Nuclear Material;

(b) if so, the details of the amended convention;

(c) the details of facilities available to the country thereby and the restrictions appended thereto; and

(d) the benefits accruing thereby to India's security and power interests?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) to (d) India is a party to the IAEA Convention on Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (CPPNM) which was adopted in 1980. The primary objective of the Convention was to facilitate the international cooperation for effective physical protection of nuclear material while in international transport. In 2005 the 118 State parties to the CPPNM, after detailed negotiations, adopted amendments aimed at promoting a high level of physical protection of nuclear material and facilities in peaceful domestic use, storage as well as transport. It also provides for expanded cooperation between and among States with regard to rapid measures to locate and recover stolen or smuggled nuclear material, mitigate any radiological consequences of sabotage and prevent and combat related offences. The amendments are also intended to strengthen the legal basis for international cooperation in the investigation, prosecution and extradition of those who commit terrorist acts and acts of sabotage thereby strengthening the international legal framework to combat terrorism. India participated actively in the negotiations. The Cabinet has approved India's ratification of the Amendment to the CPPNM. The Convention is an incentive instrument aimed at promoting a high level of physical protection of nuclear materials and facilities worldwide.

President's Address in Hindi

2979. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:
SHRI SUGRIB SINGH:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a very few Indian Embassies, Consulates and other offices located in various countries delivered/read out the President's Address in Hindi;

(b) if so, details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to ensure use of Hindi during such important occasions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ANAND SHARMA): (a) and (b) President's address on the occasion of Republic Day

on 26th January 2007 was read out both in Hindi and English at about 120 Indian Missions abroad. Copies of both Hindi and English version of President's address were circulated by most Missions.

(c) The officers and staff of the Missions generally speak in Hindi with guests on such occasions with people of Indian origin and Indians living abroad.

Development and Maintenance of Road Infrastructure

2980. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY:
PROF. PREM KUMAR DHUMAL:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the bad condition of roads and increasing traffic thereon are creating hindrances in the development of Indian Economy;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether two percent of the total National Highways bear 40% of the traffic pressure;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the funds available for development of road infrastructure is inadequate; and

(f) if so, the steps taken/being taken to make funds available for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) This Ministry is primarily responsible for the development and maintenance of National Highways (NHs). No assessments have been made regarding the impact of conditions of NHs and increasing traffic thereon on the development of the Indian Economy.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) and (f) The Government has taken several steps for enhancing the funds for the development of National Highways by imposing the cess on petrol and diesel and has taken decision for implementing the projects under

National Highways Development Project (NHDP) -Phase-III onwards primarily on Build-Operate- Transfer (BOT) basis through Public-Private-Partnership.

Forest under Bamboo Flowering

2981. SHRI MANI CHARENAMEI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the extent of forest under bamboo flowering;
- (b) the fund released for tackling bamboo flowering;
- (c) the estimated quantity of bamboo being rendered useless after bamboo flowering;
- (d) the quantity of bamboo extracted in Manipur before the onset of bamboo flowering;
- (e) the areas planned to be brought under Bamboo plantation during the current year and the amount sanctioned towards this programme during the current year;
- (f) whether any training in bamboo plantation was imparted to the villagers; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY):

(a) The extent of forest under bamboo flowering is approximately 14, 23,117 hectare in seven North-Eastern States.

(b) The amount of fund released in different Financial Years (FY) for tackling bamboo flowering under Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) of Ministry of Environment & Forests are:

FY 2005-06 = Rs 17.82 crores

FY 2006-07 = Rs 25.00 crores

FY 2007-08 = Rs 6.28 crores

(c) and (d) After flowering, Bamboo gets dried up and majority become useless. Quantity of bamboo extracted in Manipur before the onset of bamboo flowering is about 21,37,278 numbers.

(e) Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of the Ministry of Environment and Forests, proposed allocation

for the current financial year is Rs. 27 crores for various activities which includes plantations also.

(f) and (g) There is provision in the National Bamboo Mission to impart training to farmers/entrepreneurs. Beside the State Governments, the training is imparted to target groups by the cane and Bamboo Technology Centre, who have been nominated as Bamboo Technical Supports Group under the Mission.

Ozone Layer

2982. SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the increased use of refrigerators and AC machines is harming the Ozone Layer; and
- (b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to save the Ozone Layer?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. India became a Party to the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the ozone layer and the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer. The Country Programme was prepared in 1993 to phase out the Ozone Depleting Substances (ODS) and taken the following measures:-

- The Ozone Depleting Substances (Regulation and Control) Rules, 2000 under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 have been notified on 19.7.2000.
- Fiscal incentives extended by way of exemption from payment of Customs and Excise duties for goods required for non-ODS technology.
- Awareness Campaigns have been carried out.
- The use of Chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) in Refrigerators and Mobile Air-Conditioners which damage the ozone layer has been phased out from 1.1.2003. In Air-conditioners, Hydrochlorofluorocarbon (HCFC) is used, which has the low Ozone Depleting Potential and it will be phased out by 1.1.2040 as per the Montreal Protocol.

Accidents on Delhi-Gurgaon NH-8

2983. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY:

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH "LALAN"

SHRI SURAJ SINGH:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the accidents on Delhi-Gurgaon NH-8 are very high;

(b) if so, the number of accidents and casualties thereof;

(c) whether the dense population along the Delhi-Gurgaon stretches of NH-8 is creating problem for the people to cross the roads;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to check the increasing accidents and also solve the problems being faced by the people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) As per the report by the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI), 709 number of road accidents and 47 fatalities have been recorded since 1.1.2007 to 31.7.2007 on Delhi-section of NH 8.

(c) and (d) The accidents and fatalities on roads are dependent on many factors such as number of vehicles on road, road space, speed, different traffic conditions etc including the dense population.

(e) The safety of road users is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Government. However, this department has taken several steps to improve road safety for road users which are as under:

- (i) It is ensured that road safety is the integral part of road design at the planning stage for National Highways/Expressways.

- (ii) Various steps to enhance road safety such as road furniture, road markings/road signs, introduction of Highway Traffic Management System using Intelligent Transport System, enhancement of discipline among contractors during construction, road safety audit on selected stretches, have been undertaken by National Highways Authority of India(NHAI).

- (iii) Refresher training to Heavy Motor Vehicle drivers in the unorganized sector by Department of Road Transport and highways,

- (iv) Involvement of NGOs for road safety activities by Department of Road Transport and Highways and NHAI.

- (v) Setting up of Model Driving Training School in the country,

- (vi) Publicity campaign on road safety awareness through audio-visual-print media,

- (vii) Institution of National Award for voluntary organizations/individual for outstanding work in the field of road safety.

- (viii) Tightening of safety standards of vehicles.

- (ix) Providing cranes and ambulances to various State Governments/NGOs under National Highway Accident Relief Service Scheme. National Highways Authority of India also provides ambulances at a distance of 50 Km. on each of its completed highways under its Operation & Maintenance contracts.

- (x) Widening and improvements of National Highways from 2 lanes to 4 lanes and 4 lanes to 6 lanes etc.

Apart from the above, following measures are being taken by the NHAI on Delhi-Gurgaon section of NH 8 to check the increasing number of accidents and the problem faced by the people:-

- (i) Segregation of slow moving traffic from high speed traffic.

- (ii) Provision of adequate pedestrian crossings.

- (iii) Provision of fencing work along the median.

*[English]***Corruption in Road Projects**

2984. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:
SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:
SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister has expressed concern over corruption in road construction projects and emphasized the need for transparent implementation as reported in The Hindu dated May 24, 2007;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to eliminate corruption in road construction projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (c) The Hon'ble Prime Minister's remark on corruption was about road works in general. Constitutionally, the Government of India is responsible for development and maintenance of National Highways only and all other roads are under the administrative control of the State Governments and UTs. Transparent procedure for awarding the contract and its implementations are followed to avoid scope for corruption in National Highway works. The Government has suitable mechanism in place to prevent corruption.

Deposition of Silt By Ganga

2985. SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether River Ganga at Allahabad has been depositing heavy silt;

(b) whether the main channel has swung away towards the low lands on Phaphamau side;

(c) whether as a result of tangential flow towards the left bank, the main channel is liable to cause colossal loss of property, cut off rail and road communication from across Ganga and cause long term damages; and

(d) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (d) As per the report of Ministry of Water Resources, a Technical Team comprising officers from Government of Uttar Pradesh, Ganga Flood Control Commission (Patna), Ministry of Railways and the Central Water Commission was constituted and visited the site in May, 2007 to study the matter relating to river Ganga changing its course at Allahabad. The Technical Team observed that river Ganga was shifting towards the Phaphamau side during the last few years. It was observed that about 1.5-2.0 kms. upstream of the road and railway bridges, some erosion has taken place.

The Team also observed that the approach to the road and railway bridges is quite protected as boulders placed there are dampening the river flow. The existing road leading to Phaphamau town constructed parallel to river Ganga is around 600 to 700 metres away from the river flow and provides protection to the town. To check the erosion and meandering of the river upstream of the bridges, some protection works were undertaken by the Government of Uttar Pradesh. At present, there is no danger to the road and railway bridges or Phaphamau town from tangential flow.

The Team has recommended the need for (i) close monitoring of the flow pattern of the river during the current monsoon season, (ii) conducting a model study on the behavior of the river in the vicinity of the bridges, and (iii) carrying out morphological studies with remote sensing techniques within the 20 kms. reach of the river (10 kms. upstream and downstream of the bridges) by the State Government. The Ministry of Water Resources has already suggested to the Government of Uttar Pradesh to undertake the required studies and remedial measures.

Bilateral Cooperation with Switzerland

2986. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:
SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Switzerland has been providing bilateral development cooperation assistance to India since 1960;

(b) if so, the details of the assistance provided by Switzerland during the last three years; and

(c) the details of the projects being undertaken with such assistance during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ANAND SHARMA): (a) and (b) Yes. Switzerland had been extending economic and technical assistance to India since 1964. However, following revision of GOI's policy guidelines in 2003, and later in 2004, relating to bilateral development assistance, Official Development Assistance (ODA) from non G-8 countries is acceptable only if:

(i) the annual commitment under ODA by such a country is at least USD 25 million; and

(ii) it meets the other conditions, mainly that it should not be 'tied' to the supplies/consultancy from the donor country. No new projects assisted by Switzerland have been signed subsequent to 2003-2004.

(c) The details of the disbursement for the last three years made by Switzerland in respect of projects signed prior to 2003, which have been ongoing for last three years is given in the table below:

Name of Project	Disbursement (Rs. in Crore)				
	Loan/Grant	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08 (as on 31.7.07)
Neriamangalam Hydro-Electric project	Loan	14.329	0.248	1.541	00.00
Sericulture Project	Grant	2.50	00.00	00.00	00.00
Neriamangalam Hydro-Electric Project	Grant	9.587	00.00	1.027	00.00

[Translation]

Regulatory Commission for Coal

2987. SHRI GANESH SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to constitute a Regulatory Commission for appropriate control on rates and quality of coal supply;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be constituted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) to (c) The Government has appointed the Administrative Staff College of India (ASCI), Hyderabad as Consultant to examine various issues including the need for a regulator, in consultation with all the stakeholders and then to suggest a suitable regulatory frame work. The appointment of coal regulator would require legislative approval. Hence, it is difficult to suggest a time frame for formation of a regulatory authority.

[English]

Environmental Courts

2988. SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Law Commission has since completed its review of the country's environmental laws;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the cases relating to environment are mounting in the country day-by-day; and

(d) if so, the time by which the environmental courts are likely to be set up in various parts of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) The Law Commission of India has not undertaken review of the country's environmental laws. However, the Law Commission in its 186th Report on Environment Courts has *inter-alia* recommended setting

up of separate Environmental Courts in each state (or for group of State).

(c) and (d) As per information available with the Ministry of Environment & Forests, there are a large number of cases relating to environment in different courts of the country. The Ministry of Environment and Forests has, in-principle decided to propose enactment of a legislation for setting up a National Environment Tribunal and some Regional Environment Tribunals. These Tribunals can be set up after enactment of the said legislation.

New Schemes for Nursing Course

2989. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to introduce new schemes for nursing course in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the salient features thereof; and

(c) the time by which these schemes are likely to be set up and start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) There is no proposal with the Government to introduce new schemes for nursing courses in the country. However, there is a proposal for strengthening nursing education during XIth plan period in the following areas subject to approval by the competent authorities:

- (i) Establishing Auxiliary Nurse Midwifery (ANM) and General Nursing and Midwifery (GNM) schools in those districts (230) which do not have both these training institutions.
- (ii) Establishing post graduation Nursing (M.Sc. Nursing) Institutions.
- (iii) Establishing Regional Institute of Excellence with the objective of improving the standard on all India basis and provide opportunity to access high quality Nursing Education through out the country.

- (iv) Developing Cadre of Nurse Midwifery Practitioners and establishing training institutions.

[Translation]

Creation of New Employment

2990. SHRI SUBHASH SURESHCHANDRA DESHMUKH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the special group constituted by the Planning Commission to make suggestions on creation of one crore new employments every year has submitted its report to the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) to (c) The Planning Commission in 2001 had constituted a "Special Group on Targeting Ten Million Employment Opportunities per year over the Tenth Plan Period". The Special Group submitted its report in May 2002. A copy of the report has been placed in the Parliament Library. The suggestions made by the Special Group were considered in formulation of Tenth Five Year Plan.

[English]

Development of Lakes

2991. SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:
SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:
SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:
SHRI PRATIK P. PATIL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of proposals received by the Union Government for development of lakes under National Lake Conservation Plan, State-wise;

(b) whether all the proposals have been cleared;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the time by which the remaining proposals are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (e) The Ministry is implementing the scheme of National Lake Conservation Plan (NLCP) since June, 2001 for conservation and management of polluted and degraded lakes in urban and semi-urban areas, on a 70:30 cost sharing basis between the Central Government and the respective State Governments. The state-wise details of the Lake Conservation Proposals received by this Ministry for consideration under the NLCP are given in the enclosed statement. Out of the proposals received so far, the Ministry has sanctioned 32 projects for conservation of 48 lakes at an estimated cost of Rs. 617.34 crore. Some pending project proposals having technical deficiencies, needs modifications by the State Government. The proposals for new lakes are considered for sanction subject to their admissibility as per NLCP guidelines, pollution status, prioritization and availability of funds under the Plan.

Statement

State-wise Status of the Proposals received for their consideration under the NLCP

S.No.	State	No. of proposals received
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1
2.	Bihar	1
3.	Chattisgarh	1
4.	Gujarat	2
5.	Jharkhand	1
6.	Karnataka	19
7.	Maharashtra	16
8.	Madhya Pradesh	6
9.	Orissa	1
10.	Pondicherry	1
11.	Rajasthan	6
12.	Tripura	1

1	2	3
13.	Tamil Nadu	4
14.	Uttar Pradesh	4
15.	Uttarakhand	2
16.	West Bengal	2
17.	Jammu and Kashmir	1
18.	Kerala	1
19.	Sikkim	1
20.	Manipur	1
Total		72

[Translation]

Release of Report by EAC

2992. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH "LALAN":
SHRI RAGHUVeer SINGH KOSHAL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Economic Advisory Council (EAC) has released its report on Economic Outlook for 2007-08;

(b) if so, salient features thereof including information regarding unemployment;

(c) whether any study has been conducted by ASSOCHAM in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the problem of unemployment is under control; and

(f) if so, the data regarding the present status of unemployment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Report by Economic Advisory Council (EAC), has analysed the results of Employment & Unemployment Surveys of National Sample Survey Organisation, and it states that an emerging challenge is improving productivity

of employment in the informal sector and in agriculture so that there is a significant improvement in the quality of employment. No policy prescription for control of unemployment has been made in the Section on Employment in the said Report.

(c) and (d) Information provided by ASSOCHAM states that the public sector has been hiring women more aggressively than the private sector.

(e) and (f) The rate of unemployment increased from 7.3 per cent in 1999-2000 to 8.3 per cent in 2004-05.

[English]

Pollution in Pamba River

2993. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a detailed project for pollution abatement of River Pamba has been submitted for consideration of the Union Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken by the Union Government thereon;

(d) the funds allocated and released for the project; and

(e) the present status of implementation of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) A Project for abatement of pollution of River Pamba in Kerala was submitted in December, 2002 at an estimated cost of Rs. 319.70 crores.

(c) to (e) Phase-I of the Pamba Action Plan for pollution abatement of River Pamba at Pamba and Sabarimala was sanctioned under National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) at a cost of Rs. 18.45 crores in May, 2003 on 70:30 cost sharing basis between the Central and State Government. The Central and State Government's share in the project cost is Rs. 12.92 crore and Rs. 5.53 crore. Against the Central share, funds amounting to Rs. 1.75 crore have been released to Government of Kerala for execution of approved works. The implementation of this project had been held up due to non-availability of clearance for the required forest land.

Relations with Neighbouring Countries

2994. SHRI ANWAR HUSSAIN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state the details of the efforts made by the Government to improve its relations with the neighbouring countries in the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ANAND SHARMA): India accords the highest priority to forging closer political, economic and cultural ties with its neighbours. During the last two years, India's engagement with its neighbours at the highest level and through ministerial and other visits has expanded considerably (details are given in the enclosed statement).

Statement

- (i) India hosted the successful 14th SAARC Summit at New Delhi from April 3-4, 2007. The SAARC countries admitted Afghanistan as the 8th Member, signed agreements on the establishment of the SAARC Food Bank, a South Asian University and agreed to improve physical, economic and people connectivity and promote cooperation in water, energy, food, environment, education, health, cultural exchanges, terrorism and other fields.
- (ii) India and Bhutan signed a Friendship Treaty on February 8, 2007 to raise their relationship to an even higher level. India supported Nepal in the consolidation of peace process and in meeting her immediate priorities and needs. India is supporting the reconstruction of Afghanistan with humanitarian, financial and project assistance worth US \$ 750 million.
- (iii) India's economic cooperation and trade with Sri Lanka and relations with Bangladesh, Myanmar and Maldives were further strengthened through political, economic, technical and cultural initiatives. High-level contacts, meetings of the Joint Commission, Composite Dialogue and other meetings at Senior Officials level to resolve outstanding issues continued with Pakistan.
- (iv) During the visit of the Chinese President to India in November 2006, India and China adopted a "ten-pronged strategy" to upgrade relations to a

qualitatively new level. India and Indonesia also decided to establish a new strategic partnership during the visit of the Indonesian President to India in November 2005; relations with Indonesia and Thailand were strengthened through cooperation in new fields.

Cases of Wrong Diagnosis at Government Hospitals

2995. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA:
SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH:
SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE pleased to state:

(a) whether the case of negligence for wrongly diagnosing a woman as a cancer patient by the doctors of All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIMS) has come to the notice of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has conducted any inquiry into the incident;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof and the action taken against the doctors found guilty thereof;

(e) the number of cases of wrong diagnosis reported during the last three years in AIIMS, Safdarjung Hospital and RML Hospital in Delhi;

(f) the action taken in each case by the Government; and

(g) the steps taken by the Government to check recurrence of such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) to (g) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Grants to NGOs under AIDS Control Programme

2996. SHRIMATI K. RANI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of NGOs and details of work being carried out by these NGOs under AIDS Control Programme in Tamil Nadu;

(b) the total funds released to these NGOs by the Central Government during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) whether the Union Government has received any complaints against these NGOs;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken/proposed to be taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) The names and details of work by the NGOs funded under National AIDS Control Programme by Tamil Nadu State AIDS Control Society is given in the enclosed statement.

(b) The details of total funds released to these NGOs by Tamil Nadu State AIDS Control Society during the last three years, year-wise is given below:

2004-05 (Rs. In Lacs)	2005-06 (Rs. In Lacs)	2006-07 (Rs. In Lacs)
481.44	864.72	864.42

(c) and (d) As per NACO guidelines the NGOs have to submit, monthly activity reports, audited statement of expenditure and Utilization Certificate on half yearly and annual basis. No complaints of misutilization of funds have been received from the State AIDS Control Societies to whom the above reports are submitted.

(e) Question does not arise.

Statement

NGOs working on targeted Interventions

Sl. No.	Name & Address of NGO with Contact Person Name	Group	Work Undertaken
1	2	3	4
1.	Dr. R. Kennedy, President, Annai Orphanage and Seva Centre Sivakasi Main Road,	Commercial Sex Workers(CSWs)	Prevention and control of HIV/AIDS Activities among High Risk

1	2	3	4
	Karthigaipatti, Malli Post, Virudhunagar District—626 141		Population
2.	Thiru. P. Thangapandian, Secretary, Association for Needy Growth and Environment Liberation (ANGEL) 21, Maravar Street, Main Road, Manamadurai-630 606 Sivaganga District	Migrant Workers	Prevention and Control of HIV/AIDS Activities among Bridge Population
3.	Thiru. A. Bakthavatchalam, Executive Director, Association for Rural mass India, 4/253—Thilagar Street, Gandhi Nagar, Vazhudhareddy, Villupuram—605 401	Men who have Sex with Men (MSM), Eunuchs	Prevention and Control of HIV/AIDS Activities among High Risk Population
4.	Thiru. M. Nagarajan, Secretary Bharathi Women Development Centre Vilagam—Kattur, Manakkal Ayyempattai Via., Kattur & Post, Tiruvarur District— 610 104.	CSWs and Truckers	Prevention and Control of HIV/AIDS Activities among Bridge Population
5.	Thiru C. Charles Prabhu, Director, Centre for Action and Rural Education (CARE), No. 64-D, Odakadu, Indra Nagar, Chitodou, Erode District	Highways Truckers & Cleaners	Prevention and Control of HIV/AIDS Activities among Bridge Population
6.	Thiru. T.S. Ramkumar, Director, Centre for Social Reconstruction Selvabhavan, 85, B/3, Kalainagar New Street, Kottar Post, Nagercoil-629 002, Kanyakumari District.	CSWs	Prevention and Control of HIV/AIDS Activities among High Risk population
7.	Thiru. P. Bhagavatheeswaran, Secretary. Centre for Social Development Kulala Street, Thiruvainankurichy, Ammandivilai—629 204, Kanyakumari District	Migrants (Agricultural Workers, WIPs)	Prevention and Control of HIV/AIDS Activities among Bridge Population
8.	Dr. J. Tagore Derose, Director Chevalliar J.L.P. roche Victoria Memorial Trust Society Derose Centre, 42, Polpettai, Opposite New Bus Stand, Tuticorin—628 002	Industrial workers (Male and Female workers)	Prevention and Control of HIV/AIDS Activities among Bridge Population

1	2	3	4
9.	Mrs. R. Kamalam, Secretary, Chitharanjan Das Organisation for Women, No. 111-5E-1, Old State Bank Colony, Tuticorin—628 002	Industrial Workers	Prevention and Control of HIV/AIDS Activities among Bridge Population
10.	Ms. P. Sucila Pandian, Programme Director Community Action for Social Transformation (CAST) Main Road, Poothathankudieruppu Thiruviruthanpulli Post, Cheranmahadevi (Vla), Tirunelveli District—627 414	Beedi Rolling workers, outmigrants, Adolescents and CSWs	Prevention and Control of HIV/AIDS Activities among Bridge Population
11.	Thiru. Thomas Antony, Project Co-ordinator, Community Action Trust D-15, CMDA Truck Terminal Complex, Madhavaram, Chennai—600 110	Truckers	Prevention and Control of HIV/AIDS Activities among Bridge Population
12.	Thiru. A. Joseph Baskaran, Managing Trustee Foundation for Infrastructure Reconstruction and Employment, No. 1/82-E, Anna Nagar, Sirumugai Post, Coimbatore District—641 302	Truckers	Prevention and Control of HIV/AIDS Activities among Bridge Population
13.	Thiru. S. Syed Ahmed, Managing Trustee. Foundation for Human Rights and Development (FOHRD), 36/39, Sekkilar Street, B.B. Kulam, Madurai—625 002	Prisoners	Prevention and Control of HIV/AIDS Activities among Bridge Population
14.	Dr. M.L.E. Manoharan, Director Gramodaya, 1080, South Street, Madurai Road, Viralimalai, Pudukkottai District—621 316	CSWs	Prevention and Control of HIV/AIDS Activities among High Risk Population
15.	Dr. M.L.E. Manoharan, Project Director Gramodaya Post Box No. 6 Manaparai—621 306 Trichy District	Migrants	Prevention and Control of HIV/AIDS Activities among Bridge Population

1	2	3	4
16.	Poet K.C. Arumugam, Green Media Global Trust, Cumbum panchayat Union Complex, Gandhi Nagar, Kumili Road, Cumbum, Theni—625 516	CSWs	Prevention and Control of HIV/AIDS Activities among High Risk Population
17.	Thiru. R. Veluchamy, Secretary, Health Education and Development Society (HEADS) 65/2, Cauvery Nagar, Kulithalai—639 104, Karur District	Truckers (Composite)	Prevention and Control of HIV/AIDS Activities among Bridge Population
18.	Thiru. M.S. Antosatish Babu, Secretary Health and Education Alternative Development Service (HELDS), HIV/AIDS Drop-in-centre, Suriya Super Market Upstairs, Near New Bus Stand, Thiruchengode, Namakkal District	CSWs	Prevention and Control of HIV/AIDS Activities among High Risk Population
19.	Dr. U. Mani, Chief Functionary, Health Education Association for Rural and Tribals (HEART), No. 97/A, Main Road, INNADU & Post, Kalrayan Hills Block, Sankarapuram Taluk, Villupuram District	Tribals	Prevention and Control of HIV/AIDS Activities among Bridge Population
20.	Ms. D. Revathi, Managing Director, human Mirror Trust 4/502-D, K.V.M.S. Illam, Andavar Nagar, Namakkal District—637 001	Migrants	prevention and Control of HIV/AIDS Activities among Bridge Population
21.	Dr. Rajavenkateswar, Project Director Human uplift Trust (HUT), Sri Meikandar Complex, Kalpalayam Road, Manachanallur Trichy District—621 005	32 to 53 Age groups of both sex, Labourers in the community, Mobile groups and coolies	
22.	Ms. A. Meenakshe, Secretary, Imayam Social Welfare Association No. 3, Anna Nagar 1st Street, Ganapathy, Coimbatore—641 006	Prison Inmates	Prevention and Control of HIV/AIDS Activities among Bridge Population

1	2	3	4
23.	Thiru A.J. Hariharan, Secretary, Indian Community Welfare Organization, Plot No. 1369, 18th Main Road, 'I' Block, 6th Street Vallalar Colony, Anna Nagar West, Chennai—600 040	MSM	Prevention and Control of HIV/AIDS Activities among High Risk Population
24.	Thiru. Pappu Maickam, President, Institute for Social Awareness and Rural Development (INSARD) 31-A, Housing Board Colony, Sathur—626 203 Virudhunagar District	Industrial workers and WIPs	Prevention and Control of HIV/AIDS Activities among Bridge Population
25.	Thiru. V. Murugesan, General Secretary Integrated People's Service Society 31, Gandhipuram, Udumalai By-Pass Dharapuram—638 656 Erode District	Industrial Workers	Prevention and Control of HIV/AIDS Activities among Bridge Population
26.	Thiru. M. Anbarasan, Secretary, Makkal Villippunarvu Kalvi Sangam 38, Santhaipattai Street, Srivilliputtur Virudhunagar District—626 125	Industrial Workers	Prevention and Control of HIV/AIDS Activities among Bridge Population
27.	Thiru G. Babu, President Mass Action Network India Trust 14, First Floor, West Sivan Koil Street, Vadapalani, Chennai—600 026	Truckers	Prevention and Control of HIV/AIDS Activities among Bridge Population
28.	Ms. O. Jayakaruppayee, Managing Trustee Mercy Trust, 50, Muniyandi Koil Street, S, Alankulam, Madurai District—625 017	CSWs	Prevention and Control of HIV/AIDS Activities among High Risk Population
29.	Smt. M. Prasanna, Secretary, Mother Sarada Devi Social Service Society 9, Durga Illam, Y.M.R. Patti (West) dindigul District—625 001	Truckers	Prevention and Control of HIV/AIDS Activities among Bridge Population
30.	Thiru. V. Ranjith, Secretary Movement for Life Development 87, Soundaravalli Street, Vithiyandham Nagar Vazhudhareddy—605 401 Villupuram Dt.	Industrial Workers	Prevention and Control of HIV/AIDS Activities among Bridge Population

1	2	3	4
31.	Ms. G. Kalaiselvi, Director, New Life Social Welfare Centre, No. 65, Lakshmi Amman Koil Street, Karanodai, Chennai—600 067	Migrants (Composite)	Prevention and Control of HIV/AIDS Activities among Bridge Population
32.	Thiru. C. Jagadish Rosario, Director Organization for Action and Social Integration Service (OASIS) 891, Raja Nagar (Eastside Bus Stand), Andimadam perambalur District—621 801	Drivers, Construction Workers and other Casual labourers and General public	
33.	Ms. B. Anandhi, Secretary Pengal Munnetra Sangam, 8, R.K. Puram, Bishop's Down, Ooty—643 001 The Nilgiri District	Migrants (Tea Estate Laboreres & Managers)	Prevention and Control of HIV/AIDS Activities among Bridge Population
34.	Thiru. P. Manoharan, Project Director, People Association for community Health Education (PACHE) Trust, Plot No. 42, Thiruvalluvar Street, Ponmeni Jeya Nagar, Madurai—625 016	IDU & their Spouses	Prevention and Control of HIV/AIDS Activities among High risk Population
35.	Smt. N.A. Vijayalakshmi Project Co-ordinator, Public Welfare and Development Society (PWDS), Kanakampalayam Village, T.N. Palayam Block Via., Kallipatti, Gobichetipalayam Taluk, Erode District— 638 505	Tribals	Prevention and Control of HIV/AIDS Activities among Bridge Population
36.	Ms. R. Selvarani, Managing Trustee & Director Rural Development Trust 4/255-A, Sri Chakra Nagar, Anaiyar Post, Madurai—625 017	Estate workers	Prevention and Control of HIV/AIDS Activities among Bridge Population
37.	Thiru. D. Selvam, President, Rural Education and Action Development (READ), 1926, Sakhti Vinayagar Street, Vilandai, Andimadam, Parambalur—621 801	MSM	Prevention and Control of HIV/AIDS Activities among High Risk Population

1	2	3	4
38.	Ms. S. Regina Mary, Secretary Rural Women Development Centre (RWDC), 61, Upstairs, Singapore Line, Irundhirapatty Road, Illuppur—622 102, Annavasal Block Pudukkottai District	Migrant (High Risk Population)	Prevention and Control of HIV/AIDS Activities among Bridge Population
39.	Ms. K. Hussainara, Secretary Rural Education and Economic Development Association (REEDA), 11-A, Sivankoil Kulakkal Street, Devakottai-630-302 Sivagangai District	Migrants (Composite)	Prevention and Control of HIV/AIDS Activities among Bridge Population
40.	Dr. C. Satheesh Kumar, Managing Trustee SARAS(A Trust of Social Service) 203 B, Main Bazaar, Ooty—643 001, Nilgiris District	Commercial Sex workers	Prevention and Control of HIV/AIDS Activities among High Risk population
41.	Thiru. S. Subbaiah, Project Director Social Welfare Center for Weaker Sections, 5B/6, SIDCO Main Road, Kaviarasu Kannadasan Nagar, Chennai—600 118	CSWs	Prevention and Control of HIV/AIDS Activities among High Risk Population
42.	Ms. D. Rukmini, Executive Secretary Society for Education and People's Action for Development(SEPAD) Panchayat Union Office Road, K. Paramathy—639 111 Karur District	Chamber Workers and power loom workers	Prevention and Control of HIV/AIDS Activities among Bridge Population
43.	Thiru. P. Murugan, Secretary, Society for Rural Development and Protection of Environment (SRDPE), Jeyam Nagar (Near Murugesan Motors) Sukkunvadanpatti, Theni—625 531	Industrial workers	Prevention and Control of HIV/AIDS Activities among Bridge Population
44.	Ms. R. Uma Gowri, General Secretary Tamil Nadu Rural Environment Eco Development Organization, 43-A, Kakkan street, 1st Floor, Shenoy Nagar, Madurai—625 020	Construction and Migrant workers	Prevention and Control of HIV/AIDS Activities among Bridge Population

1	2	3	4
45.	Ms. V.K. Amirthavalli, President Tamil Nadu Depressed Women Welfare Society No. 15/1, 3rd cross, Mullaivasal Street, D-Nagar, Thiruverumbur Trichy—620 013	Industrial workers	Prevention and Control of HIV/AIDs Activities among Bridge Population
46.	Thiru. C. Karthikeyan, Co-ordinator, Teddy Trust Tenkasi Road, Alampatti P.O. of Post Box No. 25, Thirumangalam—625 706 Madurai District	Truckers & CSW	Prevention and Control of HIV/AIDs Activities among High Risk Population
47.	Thiru. S. Vanithasan, Secretary Time Organisation, Main Road, Budalur & Post, Tanjavur District—613 602	CSWs	Prevention and Control of HIV/AIDS Activities among High Risk Population
48.	Thiru. M. Sundaramurthy, Managing Trustee Trust for Amalgamated Service in Education and Development "TASED Trust" 10/23, Singaravaleen Street, NH-II, Maraimalai Nagar, Kancheepuram District—603 209	Industrial workers	Prevention and Control of HIV/AIDs Activities among Bridge Population
49.	Thiru. A. Gnanadurai, Director Vidivelli Samuga Seval Amaippu, 225, Vandemataram Building Kuppanapuram, Manur Post, Tirunelveli District—627 201	Migrant workers	Prevention and Control of HIV/AIDS Activities among Bridge Population
50.	Shri. V. Sampath, Chairman, Voluntary Education & Economical Development Organisation (VEEDO), No. 74, Bharathidasan Nagar, Near Military Road, Orikkai, Kancheepuram—631 502	CSWs	Prevention and Control of HIV/AIDS Activities among High Risk Population
51.	Thiru. S. Francis Porsingula, Secretary, We Care Social Service Society, No. 4/88, Netaji Street, Singaperumal Koil—603 502 Kancheepuram District	Industrial Workers and Sex workers	Prevention and Control of HIV/AIDS Activities among Bridge Population

1	2	3	4
52.	<p>Ms. M. Sarala, Project Director, Women's Organisation in Rural Development (WORD),</p> <p>7-C, Andikadu, Vediarasampalayam Road Agraharam post, Pallipalayam—638 008 Namakkal District</p>	Truckers and Industrial (Power loom) Workers	Prevention and Control of HIV/AIDS Activities among Bridge Population
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<i>NGOs working on Prevention of Parent to Child Transmission (PPTCT)</i>		7.	The Director Dalit womens Development Society, 1/24, Kalaigai Street, Sethuvalai Vellore District
1.	Dr. Amudha Hari, Consultant Gynaecologist & Laposcopic Surgeon, Mithras foundation 1, 8th Cross St. Karpagam Gardens, Adayar, Chennai 600 020	8.	The Project Director REED Centre, 6/69, K-29, Rohini Complex, Lakshmipuram Main Road, Koilpatti, Tuticorin—628 502
2.	The programme Director South India AIDS Action programme, SIAAP 8/11 Jeevanantham st, Lakshmipuram, Thiruvannamipur, Chennai 600 041	9.	The Director, Centre for Action, Development Research & Education in India, Kurumathur, Kuzhithurai, Kanyakumari—629 163
3.	The President Women's Education and Awareness Development (WEAD), K. Chettipalayam, Tirupur—641 608, Coimbatore District.	10.	The Secretary Centre for Human and Natural Resources Development, 1/362, SBI Colony Keeravadakalai Periyakulam Theni—625 601
4.	The President, Coimbatore Network for positive People (CNP+), No. 454, SBA Complex, Near Mani's Theatre, Kamarajar Road, Hope College, Peelamedu, Coimbatore—641 004	11.	The Secretary Rural Social Welfare Society, 1/1964, Kanthapalayam & Post, Polur Taluk Thiruvannamalai—606 901
5.	The Secretary Society for Women's Education Economic Development (SWEED) 19/3, Pandian Nagar, Melur Madurai—625 106	12.	The Director, Nesakkarangal, No. 22/23, Municipal Shopping Complex, Dhali Road, Udumalpet—642 126, Coimbatore
6.	The President Women's Welfare Trust Committee, 9, Kasimani Maaligai, Near Taluk Office, Orathanadu—614 625, Tanjavur	13.	The Managing Trustee, Blossom Trust, No. 77, Sekkilar Street, Virudhunagar—626 001.

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| <p>14. The Secretary,
Project Concern International
115/1, Shivaya Nagar,
4th Main Road, Reddiyur,
Salem District—636 004</p> <p>15. Social Action For Development of Human Urge
(Sadhu)
New No. 36
Old No. 18A
Doming St, Santhome
Chennai—4.</p> <p>16. T Vijaya
Secretary
Arasan Rural Development Society,
129-D, Anna Salai,
Kalakad, Tirunelveli</p> <p>17. The Director
New Life Community Development Project,
448/279 Bangalore Road,
Krishnagiri—635 001</p> <p>18. Shanmugarajan
Director
The Source Trust
Santhanamnyalam
Anna Nagar,
Madurai, 20</p> <p>19. The Executive Director
Meera Foundation
2/196, Ammachiamman Koil St, Sakthi Nagar,
Madurai—14.</p> <p>20. The General Secretary,
The Voluntary Health, Education and
Rural Development Society,
41(Old No. 19), Circular Road, United India Colony,
Kodambakkam,
Chennai—600 024</p> <p>21. The Secretary
People's Development Initiatives (PDI),
32, Kajiyar Street, Beemanagar
Trichy—620 001</p> <p>22. The Director
Janapriya Trust,
North Chistian Street, Ukkirankottai, Tirunelveli
District—627 202</p> | <p>23. The Managing Trustee
Rural Reconstruction Organization (RRO),
8/66, VM Colony, North Ariyanayaki Puram,
Ambai Taluk,
Tirunelveli—627 603</p> <p>24. The Director
Arumbugal Trust,
201, Kumaresan colony, Thiagaraja nagar
Tirunelveli—627 011</p> <p>25. The Secretary & Director
Poors Uplift Social Health & Education Society,
(pushes)
12, Voorhees College Campus,
Ami Road,
Vellore—1.</p> <p>26. The President
Karunya Community Development Centre,
208, Ariyur Road, Thorapadi Post,
Vellore—632 002</p> <p>27. The Administrative President,
Athencottasan Muthumizh Kazhagam,
7-46 B, Naduvoorkarai, Mondaikad—629 252,
Kanyakumari District</p> <p>28. The President
Seva Nilayam Society in Association
With Ryder—Cheshire Foundation,
Rajathani Post, Aaundipatti, Theni—625 512</p> <p>29. The Executive Director,
Madhar Nala Thondu Niruvanam (MNTN),
Thiruvendhipuram Main Road,
Pathirukuppam & P.O., Cuddalore—607 401,
Cuddalore District.</p> <p>30. The Secretary,
Association for Love and Awareness Institution
(ALOA),
Pattavarthy Thottam, Kuppichipalayam,
Nanjaiyanpalayam Post,
Dharapuram—638 657</p> <p>31. The Secretary
Centre for Rural Development and Education,
48-C, Elangovadigal Street
Ramanathapuram—623 501</p> <p>32. The Secretary,
Jeevakkal Social Welfare Youth Society,
272, K.K. Nagar, Thiruthangal—626 130, Sivakasai
Taluk, Virudhunagar District.</p> |
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33. Community Health Education Society, (CHES)
New No. 198
Old No. 102 A, Rangarajapuram Main Road
Kodambakkam
Chennai 600 024
34. Ms. A.G. Manimekalai
Society for Education & Economic Development
(SEED),
3/273, Main Road,
Thirumarugal,
Nagapattinam, 609 702.
35. The Secretary,
Star (Social, transformation Through Action and
Research)
Mahalir Thittam,
Jayamkondam Block,
Perambalur District.
36. The Director,
Venkateswar Educational and Rural Development
Trust, No. 1/136-B, Main Road,
Kanchanam—610 201
37. Mr. Baskar
Rehabilitation Improvement through Self
Employment
(RISE)
R-2, LIG Flats,
86th, St, Ashok Nagar,
Chennai-83.
38. Saraswathi Women Educational Service Training
Improvement Centre
(SWESTIC)
Opp. Lokayankottai
Solapudur Post
Oddanchatram—624619

NGOs Working on HIV-TB Issues

No.	Name of the NGO
1	2
1.	Community Health Education Society, (CHES), New No. 198, Old No. 102 A, Rangarajapuram main road, Kodambakkam, Chennai—600 024.
2.	Dr. Amudha Hari, Mithra Foundation, 1, 8th Cross St, Karpagam Gardens, Adayar, Chennai— 600 020.

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| 3. | The Director, social Action for Development of
Human urge (Sadhu), New No. 36, Old No. 18A,
Doming St., Santhome, Chennai—600 004. |
| 4. | The Programme Director, South India AIDS Action
Programme (SIAAP), No. 8/11 Jeevanantham St.,
Lakshmipuram, Tiruvannamur, Chennai—600 041. |
| 5. | The President, Women's Education and
Awareness Development (WEAD), K.
Chettipalayam, Tirupur—641 608, Coimbatore
District. |
| 6. | The President, Coimbatore Network for positive
People (CNP+), No. 454, SBA complex, Near
Main's Theatre, Kamarajar Road, Hope College,
Peelamedu, Coimbatore—641 004. |
| 7. | The Executive Director, Madhar Nala Thondu
Niruvanam (MNTN), Thiruvendhipuram Main
Road, Pathirukuppam & P.O., Cuddalore—607
401, Cuddalore District. |
| 8. | The Executive Director, Meera Foundation, 2/196,
Ammachiamman Koil St., Sakthi Nagar,
Madurai—14. |
| 9. | The Secretary, Association for Love and
Awareness Institution (ALAI), Pattavarthy Thottam,
Kuppichipalayam, Nanjaiyanpalayam Post.,
Dharapuram—638 657. |
| 10. | The General Secretary, The voluntary Health,
Education and Rural Development Society, 41
(Old No. 19), Circular Road, United India Colony,
Kodambakkam, Chennai—600 024. |
| 11. | The Administrative President, Athencottasan
Muthumizh Kazhagam, 7-46 B, Naduvorkarai,
Mondaikad—629 252, Kanyakumari District. |
| 12. | The Director, Saraswathi Women Educational
Service Training Improvement Centre (SWESTIC),
Opp Lokayankottai, Solaipudur Post,
Oddanchatram—624619 |
| 13. | The Director, New Life Community Development
Project, 448/279 Bangalore Road, Krishnagiri—
635 001. |
| 14. | The Secretary, Society for Women's Education
Economic Development (SWEED), 19/3, Pandian
Nagar, Melure, Madurai—625 106. |

1	2
15.	Ms. A.G. Manimekalai, Society for Education & Economic Development (SEED), 3/273, Main Raod, 609 702, Thirumarugal, Nagapattinam.
16.	The Secretary, Project Concern International, 115/1, Shivaya Nagar, 4th Main Road, Reddiyur, Salem District—636 004.
17.	The Director, Nesakkarangal, No. 22/23, Municipal Shopping Complex, Dhali Road, Udumalpet—642 126, Coimbatore.
18.	The Secretary, Star (Social, Transformation Through Action and Research), Mahalir Thittam, Jayamkondam Block, Perambalur District.
19.	The Secretary, Centre for Rural Development and Education, 48-C, Elangovadigal Street, Ramanathapuram—623 501.
20.	The Director, The Source Trust, Santhanamnyalam, Anna Nagar, Madurai—20.
21.	The President, Women's Welfare Trust Committee, 9, Kasimani Maaligai, Near Taluk Office, Orathanadu—614 625, Thanjavur.
22.	The Secretary, Centre for Human and Natural, Resources Development, 47, Sastri Nagar Second Street, T. Kallipatti, Periyakulam—625 601, Theni District.
23.	The President, Seva Nilayam Society in Association, with Ryder—Cheshire Foundation, Rajathani Post, Andipatti, Theni—625 512.
24.	The Managing Trustee, Rural Reconstruction Organisation (PRO), 8/66, VM Colony, North Ariyanayaki Puram, Ambai Taluk, Tirunelveli—627 603.
25.	The Director, Arumbugal Trust, 201, Kumaresan Colony, Thiagaraja Nagar, Tirunelveli—627 011.
26.	Mr. Baskar, Rehabilitation Improvement through Self Employment (RISE), R-2, LIG Flats, 86th St, Ashok Nagar, Chennai—83.
27.	The Secretary, Rural Socieal Welfare Society, 1/1984, Kanthapalayam & Post, Polur Taluk, Tiruvannamalai—606 901.

1	2
28.	The Director, Venkateswara Educational and Rural Development Trust, No. 1/136-B, Main Raod, Kanchanam—610 201, Tiruvarur District.
29.	The Secretary, Arasan Rural Development Society, 129-D, Anna Salai, Kalakad, Tirunelveli District.
30.	The Project Director, REED Centre, 6/69, K-29, Rohini Complex, Lakshmipuram Main Road, Koilpatti, tuticorin—628 50.
31.	The Secretary, People's Development Initiatives (PDI), 32, Kajiyar Street, Beemanagar, Trichy—620 001.
32.	The Secretary & Director, Poor's Uplift in Social Health & Education Society (PUSHES), 12 Voorhees College Campus, Arni Road, Vellore—1.
33.	The Executive Director, Madhar Nala Thondu Niruvanam (MNTN), Thiruvendhipuram Main Road, Pathirukuppam & P.O., Cuddalore—607 401, Cuddalore District.
34.	The Managing Trustee, Blossom Trust, No. 77, Sekkilar Street Virudhunagar—626 001.
35.	The Director, Centre for Action, Development Research & Education in India, Kurumathur, Kuzhithurai, Kanyakumari—629 163.
36.	The Director, Janapriya Trust, North Christian Street, Ukkirankottai, Tirunelveli District—627 202.
37.	The Director, Dalit Womens Development Society, 1/24, Kalaigner Street, Sethuvalai, Vellore District. The President, Karunya Community Development Centre, 208, Ariyur Road, Thorapadi Post, Vellore—632 002.
38.	The Secretary, Jeevakal Social Welfare Youth Society, 272, K.K. Nagar, Thiruthangal—626 130, Sivakasi Taluk, Virudhunagar District.
39.	ADHIVASHI, Gudaloor.
40.	SLRTC, Vellore.
41.	SITTILINGI, Dharmapuri.
42.	READ, Dindigul.

NGOs working on Community Care Centres

No.	Name of the NGO
1	2
1.	N.A.A. District People Welfare Service Society 23, Kavarai Street, Kondasamudiram, Gudiyattam, Vellore District—632 602.
2.	Anbalayam, Vairam Memorial Complex, Bye Pass Road, Opp. Siva Automobiles, Subramaniapuram, Trichy District 620 020.
3.	Community Action for Social Transformation, Poothathankudieruppu, Cheranmahadevi (Via), Thiruviruthanpulli Post, Tirunelveli District—627 414.
4.	HIV Positive People Welfare Society, New No. 70, Old No. 269, Labour colony, Guindy, Chennai-600 032.
5.	Family Planning Association of India (FPAI) Madurai Branch, FPAI Bhavan, FPAI Road, TNHB colony, Ellis Nagar, Madurai, Madurai District—625 010.
6.	Meenakshi Mission hospital and Research Centre Lake Area, Melur Road, Madurai District—625 107.
7.	Ramana Maharishi Rangammal Hospital, Siva Nagar, Athiyandal Village, Thivannamalai District—606 603.
8.	The Association of Arulagam Hospice Bangarapuram, Reddiarchatram Post, Dindigul District—624 622.
9.	Christian Medical College and Hospital, Ida Scudder Road, post Box No. 3, Vellore—632 004.
10.	Society of the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Community Health Department, Periyakulam Road, Theni—625 531.
11.	Christian Fellowship Hospital, Oddanchatram—625 619, Dindigul District.

1	2
12.	Project Concern International (PCI), No. 115/1, Shivaya Nagar, 4th Main Road, Reddyur, Salem—636 004.
13.	Sharanalayam, 'A home for the Children of God' 34, Thiruvengada Nagar, Palgat Road, Pollachi—635 802, Vellore District.
14.	Bethesola Hospital, Post Box No. 56 Ambur-635802, Vellore District
15.	The Salvation Army Community Health & Development Projects, Catherine Booth hospital, Nagercoil—629 001, Kanyakumari District.
16.	Arogya Agam, Aundipatty, Theni District, PIN: 625 512.
17.	James Memorial Charitable Trust, Colachel Post, Kanyakumari District—629 251.
18.	Founder & Manaping Trustee Shantham Rural Development Organization (SHARDO) A-24, Housing Unit, Anna Nagar, Near Bus Stand, Dharapram, Erode District- Pin-638656.
19.	Gramiyum, No. 9 Periyar Street (Gokulam Building) Cauvery Nagar, Kultithali, Karur District—639 104.
20.	Rural Integrated Development Organization (RIDO) Savagram, Morrapur, Dharmapuri District—635 30.
21.	Community Organisation of Oppressed and Depressed upliftment (COODU) No. 22/29-B3, Palaniappa Nagar, Ramanathapuram, Coimbatore-641 045.
22.	HUT Community Care Centre No. 164 MM Plaza, 1st Floor, Trichirapallai Main Road, Madhagopalapuram, Perambalur.
23.	Kingsely Community Centre, Kingsley Gardens, Kandikuppam—635 108 Krishnagiri.

NGOs Working on Positive Networks

1. Tamil Nadu Network of Positive People (TNP+)
New No. 70, Old No. 269, Labour Colony,
Guindy, Chennai—600 032.
2. South India Positive Network,
door No. 119/285,
Paper Mills Road,
Peravallur, Chennai—600 082.
3. Tamil Nadu Aravanighal Association (THAA)
20/29, Kattaboman Street,
Kamarajar Nagar,
New Perengalathur,
Chennai—600 063.
4. People living with and affected by HIV/AIDS Trust,
No. 247/2 Periyakulam Rd,
Convent School Opp.,
Theni, Theni District—625 531.
5. Cuddalore District HIV Positive Society (CDS+),
No. 5, Lakshmi Balaji Illam,
Neyveli Main Road, Vadalur,
Cuddalore District—607 303.

Sale of Coal Through Black Marketing

2997. SHRI NARAHARI MAHATO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the objective of allocating coal to the National Consumer Cooperative Federation (NCCF);

(b) the details of the quantum of coal lifted by the NCCF and sold to the consumers during each of the last three years and the current year;

(c) the rate at which coal was given to the NCCF and the rate at which the same was sold by them;

(d) whether any complaints have been received regarding sale of coal through black marketing;

(e) if so, whether these complaints have been investigated;

(f) if so, the outcome thereof;

(g) the steps taken by the Government to check black marketing of coal;

(h) whether the purpose of allocating coal to the NCCF has been achieved; and

(i) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) National Co-operative Consumers' Federation of India Limited (NCCF), a multi state cooperative society, was allocated coal, on the recommendation of the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, with the objective of distributing coal to small and tiny consumers who do not have linkage or sponsorship and find it difficult to approach directly coal companies to meet their requirements of coal.

(b) Order for allocation of coal to NCCF was issued in December 2004, for a quantity of 2 million tonnes per annum. However, the actual quantity of coal lifted by NCCF is as under:

Year	Quantity despatched by CIL
2004-05	0.89 lakh tonnes
2005-06	4.30 lakh tonnes
2006-07	1.49 lakh tonnes
2007-08 (Upto July, 2007)	0.31 lakh tonnes

(c) NCCF is being supplied coal at 120% of the notified price. NCCF has been advised to distribute coal to small and tiny consumers across the country at a price not exceeding 5% over and above the base price charged by the coal companies. Transportation charges and duties/levies shall be extra.

(d) to (i) Complaints were received alleging irregularities in sale of coal by NCCF. Chief Vigilance Officer, CIL was instructed to investigate those complaints. In his report, he suggested certain measures to improve the distribution network system of NCCF. Based on his report, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution was requested to take follow up action. Further, as reported by Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, a case pertaining to alleged diversion of coal is being investigated by CBI(ACB), Kolkata.

CIL has been directed to strictly monitor supply of coal to prevent any misuse of coal.

Coal India Limited has put in place a "Watchdog mechanism" to ensure that there are no irregularities in sale of coal by NCCF.

This arrangement has been made to enable tiny consumers to access coal. This objective is being

achieved to the extent of coal so far supplied by the NCCF to the intended consumers.

Noise Pollution

2998. SHRI MADAN LAL SHARMA:
PROF. M. RAMADASS:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), in its study, has suggested that noise pollution test be made mandatory for all vehicles in major cities of the country including Delhi; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) The Central Pollution Control Board has conducted a study, during August-September 2006, for assessment of noise levels in Delhi at 12 locations comprising of residential, commercial and industrial areas in the city. The study observed that vehicular noise is having a sizeable share in noise generation in all areas and one of the suggestions made is regarding noise tests for vehicles in major cities.

For reducing noise levels from vehicles, noise limits as applicable at manufacturing stage have been notified under the Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986 for two and three wheelers, passenger cars and commercial vehicles.

[Translation]

Indian Prisoners in Bangladesh and Nepal Jails

2999. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA:
SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI:
SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indian prisoners in Bangladesh and Nepal Jails;

(b) the time since when they are in prisons and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the concrete steps taken by the Government to get them released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED): (a) There are 854 Indian nationals imprisoned in various jails in Bangladesh and 339 in Nepal.

(b) and (c) Common charges under which these persons are arrested are illegal trespassing, smuggling etc. The Government of India, through its Missions and Posts abroad and through bilateral meetings with officials of the concerned countries, makes all possible efforts to get Indian nationals in foreign jails released quickly and provide necessary assistance which includes requesting speedy trials, seeking remission of sentence, seeking consular access to the detainees and prisoners, providing advice/guidance in legal and other matters, interacting with their families in India, ensuring fair and humane treatment in foreign jails and facilitating repatriation to India on their eventual release.

[English]

Delhi-Jaipur Expressway

3000. DR. KARAN SINGH YADAV:
SHRI KULDEEP BISHNOI:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to construct Express Highway between Delhi and Jaipur;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the work on Delhi-Gurgaon Expressway is running behind schedule; and

(d) if so, the details therefor and the reasons thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) The Government has approved construction of 1,000 kms expressways in the country under Phase-VI of National Highways Development Project (NHDP). The Section of Vadodara-Mumbai (400 kms) has been identified. The other 600 kms will be identified on the basis of traffic volume from other high density corridors in which Delhi-Jaipur (261 km) on National Highway (NH)-8 is also one of the corridors. The final decision of inclusion of Delhi-Jaipur section can be taken on the basis of prioritization study.

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) Delhi-Gurgaon Section of NH-8 (km 14.300 to km 42.000) was scheduled to be completed by July, 2005. But due to non-availability of land and value additions as per recommendation of Government of Delhi and Haryana, the scheduled completion has been extended to December, 2007.

Budgetary Expenditure on Rural Infrastructure

3001. SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per the World Bank estimate, 1% increase in the stock of rural infrastructure lead to 1% increase in the National GDP;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that between 1993-94 and 2003-04 the share of budgetary expenditure on rural infrastructure and social services had declined from 32% to 25%;

(d) if so, the reasons behind this sharp fall in expenditure;

(e) whether declining investment is one of the important constraints for the dismal state of rural infrastructure; and

(f) if so, the constructive plans to spend more on rural infrastructure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) and (b) The World Development Report, 1994 states that a 1% increase in the stock of infrastructure is associated with a 1% increase in Gross Domestic Product (GDP) across all countries. The result is derived from a cross country association, and the Report does not specifically mention rural infrastructure.

(c) Based on the information available in "Indian Public Finance Statistics" (various issues), published by Ministry of Finance, Department of Economic Affairs, Economic Division, the share of budgetary expenditure on Social and Community Services and Infrastructure (Power, Irrigation and Flood Control, Transport and Communications) in the total expenditure of Central and State Governments increased from 29.8% in 1993-94 to 32.1% in 2003-04.

(d) to (f) Do not arise.

Golden Quadrilateral Project

3002. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL:
SHRI RAGHUVVEER SINGH KOSHAL:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the construction works of Golden Quadrilateral Project and the East-West and North-South Corridor have not been completed in time and with the fund allocated for the same;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the works completed and pending till date and total expenditure thereon;

(c) whether the revised budget estimates for National Highways Authority of India for the year 2005-06 and 2006-07 has been reduced; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) About 96% (5,597 km out of total 5,846 km) of Golden Quadrilateral has been completed as on date. The balance work has not been completed because of various reasons such as rescinding and reawarding of the contracts of non-performing contractors, land acquisition, shifting of utilities, environment/forest/Railways clearances etc.

As regards North-South & East-West corridors, four laning has been completed in 1,390 km and is in progress in 4,931 kms. Contracts for 821 km remain to be awarded.

(c) and (d) The Budget Estimate for National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) for the year 2005-06 was Rs. 16,169.74 crore. This includes Rs. 8,500 crore against Internal & Extra Budgetary Resources (IEBR) mainly through market borrowings. The Revised Estimates for NHAI was Rs. 11,001.74 crore including Rs. 4,082 crore against IEER. The reduction was mainly in IEER. Reduction was also due to lower level of funds required for Externally Aided Projects which were mostly nearing completion or were completed. There was no change in RE 2006-07 as compared to BE 2006-07.

MoUs with Foreign Countries

3003. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to sign Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with some other countries in the field of governance and public administration,

(b) if so, the countries with which such cooperation is proposed to be established,

(c) the salient features of such MoUs; and

(d) the main objectives of the establishment of such cooperation under the MoUs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Memorandum of Understanding among the Governments of the Republic of India, the Federative Republic of Brazil and the Republic of South Africa on cooperation in the field of Public Administration and Governance is slated to be signed by the respective governments.

(c) The salient features of the proposed MOU are as follows:

(i) Cooperation in the field of Public Administration and Governance in the following areas:

- integrated monitoring and evaluation;
- e-governance;
- human resources development;
- citizen oriented service delivery;
- anti-corruption and ethics; and
- accountability and transparency.

(ii) Working Group on Public Administration set up by the three sides would be responsible for implementation of the MoU.

(iii) The working Group would finalize a programme of action for implementation of the programme of action and submit a report to the respective competent authorities.

(d) Main objectives of the cooperation under the proposed MoU are as follows:

(i) To consolidate IBSA initiatives and collaboration at regional and global level for promoting good governance.

(ii) To promote social and economic development of the people of their respective countries through efficient, accessible, transparent and accountable public service, by resorting to joint efforts and collaboration in the field of Public Administration and Governance.

(iii) To strengthen South-South cooperation amongst the three countries and promote trilateral cooperation in the field of Public Administration and Governance in seeking to achieve Millennium Development Goals and sustainable development.

[Translation]

Functioning of Gir National Park

3004. SHRI JIVABHAI A. PATEL:
SHRI V.K. THUMMAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has made any review of the functioning of the Gir National Park;

(b) if so, the findings thereof; and

(c) the details of the developmental works undertaken in the said National Park during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY):
(a) and (b) As per the information received from the State Government, the Management Plan of "Gir Protected Area (PA) was reviewed by the Management Plan Review Committee held on 5th May 2006. The Committee decided the objectives of the new Management Plan for the Gir PA as under:

1. Protect and conserve the Gir forests in a manner that is consistent with the ultimate and perpetual conservation of Asiatic lion and all other life forms and systems that together constitute this unique ecosystem.
2. Conserve and consolidate the lion habitat.
3. Improve health of the forests, their ecological functions and optimum productivity.
4. Reduce negative impacts on the biodiversity from anthropogenic pressures.
5. Pursue ecological studies and ecological research for better understanding of the ecosystem and provide greater scientific inputs for management.
6. Wildlife protection including anti-poaching and anti-encroachment works, protection against illegal grazing, fire protection, habitat management, health care research and monitoring, awareness and education, ecodevelopment and ecotourism are prioritized tasks for the management of Gir PA.

(c) The developmental works undertaken in the Gir PA during the last three years, *inter alia*, include:

1. Survey and demarcation
2. Habitat improvement works including removal of weeds.
3. Food and water facility for wildlife.
4. Nature education, extension and orientation.
5. Maintenance of watch towers, roads, buildings, wireless networks
6. Wildlife rescue, care and treatment
7. Forest fire protection
8. Ecodevelopment activities such as self-employment, community improvement works, training and education of local people residing in the surrounding areas of Gir PA.
9. Plantation in degraded forest areas including improvement of reserve and non-reserve grasslands.

[English]

Setting up of Cancer Fund

3005. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is contemplating to set up a cancer fund; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir, The details are being worked out.

Allotment of Forest Areas to Industrial Houses

3006. SHRI JUAL ORAM:
SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of forest areas allotted to various Industrial Houses in different states to set up Industries by the Ministry;

(b) the extent to which the environmental norms have been observed;

(c) the details of proposals from the Public and Private Sector Companies received by the Union Government for environmental clearance for setting up of the Industrial Units; and

(d) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (THIRU S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) So far, about 23.8 ha of forest land has been diverted under the provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act 1980 for setting up of eight (8) industries. While approving these projects under the Forest (Conservation) Act 1980, the condition of Compensatory Afforestation is invariably stipulated to compensate the loss of forests.

(c) and (d) The information is being collected from the State/UT Governments.

Hepatitis B

3007. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:
SHRI VIJOY KRISHNA:
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Hepatitis B Vaccine Immunization Programme will be implemented in all the States;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which the Hepatitis B Vaccine Immunization Programme will be implemented in all the States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) Implementation of Hepatitis B Vaccine Immunization Program is under consideration.

Underground Fire In Coal Mines

3008. SHRI SUBRATA BOSE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total area of the Bharat Coking Coal Ltd.(BCCL) affected due to underground fire, the quantum of coal burnt so far and the progress made in regard to fire fighting project;

(b) the estimated coal reserve in Jharia Coalfields and the other coal reserves affected due to subsidence caused by fire;

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to contain the fire and save Jharia township;

(d) whether the Government proposes to formulate any scheme for relocating Jharia township;

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the proposed rehabilitation scheme; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) The total

surface area of BCCL affected due to fire had been assessed to be 8.9 sq km in 1995 against the earlier area of about 17 sq. km at the time of nationalisation. The quantum of coal burnt as per earlier assessment is 37 million tonnes.

BCCL has been taking steps to control the underground and surface fire and 22 fire projects for control of fire have been taken up since 1997-98 and Rs. 76 crore have been spent for control of fire. Since 1997-98, 13 Environmental Measures and Subsidence Control (EMSC)/Rehabilitation, Control of fire and subsidence (RCFS) Schemes have been sanctioned by Ministry of Coal for control of fire and subsidence. Out of these, 6 EMSC/RCFS schemes have been completed and 6 schemes are on-going. One scheme of RCFS has been dropped due to dismantling of Dhanbad/Patherdih Railway line. Further 5 new fire and subsidence control schemes have been started under the Master plan for dealing with fire, subsidence and rehabilitation (2006).

(b) The geological coal reserves of Jharia Coalfield within the leasehold of BCCL up to a depth of 1200m, as on 01.04.2007 is 16815.66 Million Tonnes and the details are as follows:

Prime Coking Coal	—	4690.62 Million Tonnes
Medium Coking coal	—	5486.23 Million Tonnes
Non-coking coal	—	6638.81 Million Tonnes
Total	—	16815.66 Million Tonnes

As per the updated Master Plan(July, 2006) of BCCL prepared by CMPDIL it was estimated that about 37 million tonnes of good quality prime coking coal has been destroyed and about 1864 million tonnes of coal has been locked up due to fire.

(c) and (d) At present there is no mine fire below the main Jharia town and there is no proposal to relocate the main Jharia town. CMPDI has prepared a Master Plan for dealing with fire, subsidence and rehabilitation in BCCL in which 595 sites have been identified to be endangered and required shifting for safety of the people residing in these areas. These sites are scattered all over the coalfield covering most of the areas of BCCL.

Some areas near Jharia town like Chouthalkuli, Katras more, Indira Chawk, Kukurthapa, New Colony near Parsartand, Khas Jharia (part). Shamsamager, Bokapahari, pit area, Dhaskapatti, Suratand and Hanumangari are also identified by CMPDI for shifting due to the effects of fire and subsidence. The Master Plan envisages shifting of about 98000 houses from 595 sites over a period of 12 years.

(e) and (f) The salient features of the proposed Resettlement and Rehabilitation (R & R) package of CMPDI as per Master Plan is as follows:—

(a) For Private authorized houses (Non BCCL)

- (i) Cash compensation for land and building as per market rate.
- (ii) Plot of land of 100 sqm at resettlement site having all amenities and infrastructure in case the above offer is not acceptable then head of the house will be provided with a constructed flat of 40 sqm. Besides this, shifting allowance of Rs. 10,000/- per house and income generation is proposed for 250 days for 2 years as per minimum wage of the state.

(b) For non authorized houses (Non BCCL)

- (i) As per R&R package the encroachers will be provided with a constructed house of about 27 sq.m. in triple storied building with basic amenities and infrastructure like Road, Drains, Water Supply and electrification. Further, shifting allowance of Re. 10000/-per house and income generation of 250 days in a year for 2 years.

The proposed R&R package is yet to be approved by the Government of Jharkhand.

Breast Cancer

3009. SHRI PRABODH PANDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new cases of breast cancer which are diagnosed in the country every year;

(b) the preventive steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to control the menace of breast cancer;

(c) whether Scientists have identified any genes which are associated with breast cancer;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any research has been conducted in this regard in the country; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Based on the incidence of breast cancers observed in the Population Based Cancer Registry including North East Registries compiled by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) the number of new cases of breast cancers that are diagnosed in the country are estimated to be 1,23,445.

Health being a State Subject, it is for the State Governments to ensure that adequate facilities for early detection, diagnosis and treatment of cancer are made available. Central Government under the schemes of National Cancer Control Programme lays special emphasis on early detection of Cancer through screening, promoting health education, creating awareness etc. under District Cancer Control Programme. There are 25 Regional Cancer Centres in the country providing comprehensive cancer care treatment.

(c) to (f) According to ICMR, Mutations in Breast Cancer Susceptibility Gene BRCA-1 and BRCA-2 account for more than 80% of hereditary breast cancers. The other genes such as p53 (tumor suppressor gene) that controls cellular growth and differentiation is also known to be mutated in more than 50% of human cancers including breast cancer.

Genetic and epigenetic aspects of breast cancer etiology are being investigated at several advanced centres of the country including Institute of Cytology and Preventive Oncology, Noida.

[Translation]

**Construction of By-pass Road from Kalindi
Kunj to Palwal**

3010. DR. RAJESH MISHRA:
SHRI SAJJAN KUMAR:
SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT
AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government proposes
to construct a by-pass road from Kalindi Kunj to
Palwal;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the work on said by-pass road
is likely to start?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF
SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI
K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) No, Sir. This Ministry is essentially
responsible for development and maintenance of National
Highways. Kalindi Kunj-Palwal road is not a part of
National Highway system.

(b) and (c) do not arise.

[English]

Accreditation of Ayush Medicines

3011. SHRI UDAY SINGH: Will the Minister of
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has given any
accreditation to several Ayurvedic, Unani and Siddha
medicines which are freely available in the market;

(b) if so, whether experts have recommended
separate standards for regulating traditional medicine; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Union Government in
this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA
LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) The Ayurvedic, Unani and Siddha
medicines are regulated under the Drugs and Cosmetics
Act, 1940 and Rules, 1945. The License for manufacture

for sale of Ayurvedic, Unani and Siddha medicines is
given by to the State Drug Licensing Authorities of ASU
medicines. The standards of these medicines are laid
down by respective Pharmacopoeia Committees of
Ayurveda, Siddha and Unani medicines.

Work Undertaken by DCI

3012. SHRI MAGUNTA SREENIVASULU REDDY:
SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT
AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds allocated by the Government
for Dredging Corporation of India (DCI) during the last
three years;

(b) the details of the works undertaken by the
Corporation during the above period, State-wise;

(c) whether Government proposes to undertake
dredging work at ports in Public Private Partnership basis;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether complaints regarding corruption in this
corporation has been received; and

(f) if so, the steps and measures taken by the
Government to check the same?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT
AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BALLU): (a) No fund has
been allocated by Government of India to Dredging
Corporation of India (DCI) during last three years.

(b) The details of the works undertaken by DCI during
last three years, State-wise given in the enclosed
statement.

(c) and (d) At present, there is no proposal for
undertaking projects for deepening of port channels on
Private-Public Partnership basis.

(e) and (f) Two complaints regarding corruption in
the Corporation have been received in the Department
and they are under examination. Such types of cases
are duly examined by the Chief Vigilance Officer (CVO)
of the Department in consultation with the CVO of DCI
and also Central Vigilance Commission (CVC). Remedial
steps are taken as per relevant rules/procedures.

Statement*Details Of Dredging Contracts of Major Ports for the last three years***I. Maintenance Dredging**

(Quantities in Million Cum., Value in crore of Rupees)

State & Ports	2004-05		2005-06		2006-07	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
State & West Bengal Kolkata Port Trust	16.87	325.12	13.20	282.60	17.10	320.00
State: Orissa Paradip Port Trust	2.50	26.10	2.80	27.34	2.90	28.32
State: Andhra Pradesh Visakhapatnam Port Trust	0.60	6.48	0.40	6.98	0.70	5.72
State: Kerala Cochin Port Trust	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	16.80	31.59
State: Karnataka New Mangalore Port Trust	6.66	21.13	5.90	28.75	6.00	26.71
State: Goa Mormugao Port Trust	3.54	9.67	3.40	10.67	0.00	0.00
State: Maharashtra Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust	0.87	10.60	1.00	11.79	0.80	15.17
State: Gujarat Kandla Port Trust	4.53	56.24	2.20	24.40	0.00	0.00
Total	35.57	455.34	28.90	392.53	44.30	427.51

*Details of Dredging Contracts of Major Ports for the Last Three Years***II. Capital Dredging**

(Quantities in Million Cum., Value in crore of Rupees)

State & Ports	2004-05		2005-06		2006-07	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
State: Tamilnadu Sethusamudram	0.00	0.00	3.80	38.46	6.50	127.05
Total	0.00	0.00	3.80	38.46	6.50	127.05

Illegal Trade of Animal Body Parts

3013. SHRI SARVEY SATHYANARAYANA:
SHRI NARAHARI MAHATO:
SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY:
SHRI M.K. SUBBA:
SHRI SUBRATA BOSE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a well organised poaching network having links with international operators in the clandestine trade of animal body parts;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of poaching incidents reported alongwith skins of Tigers/Leopards or other wild animals recovered during the last three years, State-wise and year-wise;

(d) the number of persons including forest officials convicted/penalized for poaching under the Wild Life Protection Act during the said period, State-wise; and

(e) the effective steps taken/being taken to check poaching and illegal trade of animal body parts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY):

(a) and (b) In view of the lucrative demand for wildlife and its derivatives in clandestine international markets, the possibility of organized poaching network having links with international operators cannot be ruled out. Important wildlife parts & products which are smuggled out of India include parts of tiger, leopard, rhino, bear, musk deer, turtle, tortoise, Tibetan antelope etc. These are mainly used for traditional medicines, traditional tonics including wines, religious relics, carvings, decorative items, clothing, bags, etc.

(c) As per the information available, the State-wise details of poaching/seizure incidents involving major species, namely, tiger, leopard, elephant, rhino, star tortoise, bear, musk deer and otter during the last three years are given in the enclosed statement.

(d) The information is being collected and would be laid on the Table of the House.

(e) The steps taken to check poaching and illegal trade of animal body parts include:

- (i) Legal protection has been provided to endangered wild animals, including Tiger, Lion, Elephant, Leopard, Rhino, Wild Buffalo, Tibetan Antelope, Marine turtles, Corals, etc, against

hunting and commercial exploitation under the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

- (ii) The Wildlife (Protection) Act has been amended and made more stringent. The punishments in cases of offences have been enhanced. The Act also provides for forfeiture of any equipment, vehicle or weapon that is used for committing wildlife offence.
- (iii) The Wildlife Crime Control Bureau has been set up for control of poaching and illegal trade in wildlife and its products.
- (iv) The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has been empowered under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 to apprehend and prosecute wildlife offenders.
- (v) The State Governments have been requested to strengthen the field formations and intensify patrolling in and around the Protected Areas
- (vi) National Parks and Sanctuaries have been created as per the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 to provide better protection to wildlife and their habitat.
- (vii) Financial and technical assistance is extended to the State/Union Territory Governments under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes, viz, 'Development of National Parks & Sanctuaries', 'Project Tiger' and 'Project Elephant' for providing better protection to wild animals.
- (viii) Strict vigil is maintained through effective communication system.

Statement

Illegal Trade of Animal Body Parts by Shri Sarvey Sathyanarayana, Shri Narahari Mahato, Shri G. Karunakara Reddy, Shri M.K. Subba and Shri Subrata Bose Due for Reply on 5.9.2007

Number of important cases of poaching/seizure of wildlife and its products

Sl.No	Name of State	Year		
		2003	2004	2005
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2	—	11
2.	Assam	1	2	4
3.	Bihar	1	1	2

1	2	3	4	5
4.	Chhattisgarh	—	2	5
5.	Gujarat	2	—	—
6.	Haryana	2	4	—
7.	Himachal Pradesh	1	3	3
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	1	—	—
9.	Jharkhand	6	9	2
10.	Karnataka	8	10	3
11.	Maharashtra	15	14	—
12.	Madhya Pradesh	11	11	9
13.	Meghalaya	—	—	1
14.	Manipur	—	—	1
15.	Orissa	17	19	20
16.	Punjab	—	—	10
17.	Rajasthan	2	4	—
18.	Sikkim	—	—	3
19.	Tamil Nadu	24	14	—
20.	Tripura	—	—	1
21.	Uttaranchal	23	14	3
22.	Uttar Pradesh	13	10	6
23.	West Bengal	39	11	6
24.	NCT of Delhi	13	8	21

*[Translation]***Tribals Jailed under Forest Laws**

3014. SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA:
DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of tribal people have been jailed under forest laws;

(b) if so, the number of such cases registered against the tribal people during each of the last three years, state-wise;

(c) the number of cases of illegal falling of trees in various States during the last three years; and

(d) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY):

(a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

*[English]***Illegal Dumping of Chemical Waste**

3015. ADV. SURESH KURUP: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of cases that have come to the notice of the Government during the last three years about illegal dumping of chemical wastes into the rivers of the country, State-wise;

(b) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government against the defaulting entities; and

(c) the measures taken by the Government to prevent such dumping?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) Dumping of chemical wastes into rivers is prohibited under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and the Hazardous Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 1989 as amended in 2000 and 2003.

(c) The industries generating hazardous wastes have been inventorised by the State Pollution Control Boards. These industries are required to set up Treatment Storage and Disposal Facilities (TSDF) for safe disposal of such wastes either individually or develop Common TSDF. The States of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Maharashtra and West Bengal have set up TSDF as per the provisions laid down under the Hazardous Waste (Management and Handling) Rules. The states of Delhi, Goa, Haryana, HP, Karnataka, Kerala, Orissa, Punjab, Tamil Nadu and Uttaranchal and Daman, Diu & Dadra Nagar Haveli and Pondicherry have identified sites and are setting up TSDF.

Formation of a National Coal Grid

3016. SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to takeover Singareni Collieries of Andhra Pradesh as a part of its move to form National Coal Grid:

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the State Government of Andhra Pradesh has held consultations in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any help or cooperation is sought from the foreign companies or institutions in the formation of a National Coal Grid; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) No, Sir. No such proposal is under consideration of Government.

(b) to (f) Do not arise in view of reply to part (a) above.

Leasing of National Park for Mining

3017. SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Department of Geology & Mining of the State Government of Jammu & Kashmir has leased out hundreds of acres of land belonging to the National Park for the purpose of gypsum mining without a No Objection Certificate from the Environment Ministry;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to stop the degradation of this National Park?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY):

(a) As per the information received from the state Government, the Department of Geology & Mining, Government of Jammu & Kashmir has not leased out any area of National Park in the State of Jammu & Kashmir for mining purpose.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Food Fortification for bringing down Malnutrition

3018. SHRI SACHIN PILOT: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether both the 1993 National Nutrition Policy and the 1995 National Plan of action for Nutrition recommended for food fortification as a long term cost effective strategy for bringing down the high malnutrition rates in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any other measures have been contemplated to fortify food with essential micronutrients (vitamins and minerals);

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) The Government adopted the National Nutrition Policy (1993) wherein fortification of essential foods is one of the direct interventions as short term strategies for prevention and control of malnutrition /undernutrition which is a multifaceted problem being addressed by several ministries through various programmes in the country.

(c) to (e) Standards of fortification of food items with essential micronutrients namely vitamins and minerals have been laid down under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954. The areas where fortification being done are: fortification of vanaspati with vitamin A; compulsory iodisation of salt for direct human consumption; iron fortified common salt; fortified atta and maida etc.

[*Translation*]

Blood Banks

3019. SHRI HEMMAL MURMU: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has conducted any survey to find out the number of blood banks in each State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the examination of CMV (Cyto Megalo Virus) has not been made mandatory; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) No, Sir. As per the provisions in the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, it is mandatory requirement to obtain a license before starting a blood bank. A Statement indicating state-wise number of licensed blood banks is enclosed.

(c) and (d) Yes Sir. As per the provisions made in the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, each unit of blood has to be free from five Transfusion Transmissible Infections viz. HIV, Hepatitis—C, HbsAg, VDRL and Malaria. Accordingly, the screening for CMV is not mandatory.

Statement

Statement indicating state-wise list of 2343 licensed blood banks operating in the country as on 31st August, 2007

Sl. No.	Name of State	No. of Blood Banks
1	2	3
1.	Andaman and Nicobar	2
2.	Andhra Pradesh	238
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	3
4.	Assam	71
5.	Bihar	85
6.	Chandigarh	4
7.	Chhattisgarh	36
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1
9.	Daman and Diu	1
10.	Delhi	53
11.	Goa	9
12.	Gujarat	177
13.	Haryana	54
14.	Himachal Pradesh	19
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	26
16.	Jharkhand	14
17.	Karnataka	168
18.	Kerala	144
19.	Madhya Pradesh	121
20.	Maharashtra	280
21.	Manipur	3
22.	Meghalaya	5
23.	Mizoram	5
24.	Nagaland	4
25.	Orissa	73
26.	Pondicherry	14
27.	Punjab	92

1	2	3
28.	Rajasthan	73
29.	Sikkim	3
30.	Tamilnadu	255
31.	Tripura	7
32.	Uttar Pradesh	168
33.	Uttaranchal	26
34.	West Bengal	109
Total		2343

Wages to Labourers Engaged by CIL Contractors

3020. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of labourers employed by the contractors in each nacillary coal mines under Coal India Ltd. (CIL) during hte last three years;

(b) Whether payment is being made to the labourers according to agreement by the contractors; and

(c) if not, the steps beings taken by the Management against the guilty contractors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINSTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) As reported by Coal India Limited (CIL), the details of labourers employed by contractors for the last three years, year-wise and compay-wise, are given below:

Name of Company	No. of contractor workers engaged as on		
	31.03.2005	31.03.2006	31.03.2007
Eastern Coalfields Ltd.	5027	7264	7264
Bharat Coking Coal Ltd.	688	641	1109
Central Coalfields Ltd.	7500	7327	7454
Western Coalfields Ltd.	2665	2341	2350
South Eastern Coalfields Ltd.	6000	4225	6843
Northern Coalfields Ltd.	5778	6098	5808
Mahandi Coalfields Ltd.	5974	5815	6502
North Eastern Coalfields	486	890	707

(b) CIL has informed that payment to labourers by contractors is being made as per the terms of contracts.

(c) Does not arise in view of reply given to part (b) above.

[English]

"E-Waste and Municipal Solid Waste"

3021. SHRI ARJUN SETHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Pollution Control Board have issued the draft guidelines for management of electronic wastes generated annually in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the such guidelines have been circulated to the States/UTs for enforcing for its management; and

(d) the details of the steps taken to ensure compliance with the two key sets of rules the Hazardous Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 2003 and the Municipal Solid Wastes (Management and Handling) Rules, 2000?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) Draft Guidelines for Environmentally Sound Management of Electronic-Waste have been formulated by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB). The guidelines deal with the classification, definition and the environmentally sound technologies for recycling and treatment of e-waste and is available on CPCB's website at www.cpcb.nic.in for comments and suggestions. A Task Force has been constituted by the Ministry of Environment and Forests for finalization of these guidelines.

(d) The Hazardous Waste (Management and Handling) Rules 1989 amended in 2000 and 2003 provide for the collection, storage, transportation, treatment and disposal of such wastes. The authorities responsible for implementation of these rules include the State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) and the Pollution Control Committees of the Union Territories (PCCs of the UTs). As required under the rules;

(i) Authorizations have been granted by the SPCBs and PCCs to hazardous wastes generating units,

- (ii) A number of states have set up Treatment Storage Disposal Facilities (TSDF), and
- (iii) A scheme for the registration of recyclers to encourage environmentally sound recycling is in operation.

The Municipal Solid Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 2000 lay down detailed compliance criteria for collection, storage, segregation, transportation, processing and disposal of municipal wastes. As per these rules the municipal authority is responsible for implementation of the provisions of these rules and for any infrastructure development for management of municipal waste.

The Ministry of Urban Development under the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM), has approved solid waste management projects for 21 towns since December, 2005 and under the "Central Sector Scheme of Solid Waste Management and Drainage in 10 Selected IAF Airfield Towns", Solid Waste Management projects for 10 airfield towns have been approved at an estimated cost of Rs.99.34 crore.

The Twelfth Finance Commission (TFC) has devolved Rs.5,000 crores for local bodies as grants-in-aid for the period 2005-2010, out of which central assistance to the tune of Rs.2500 crores has been earmarked for efficient solid waste management in all 423 class I cities.

The Ministry of Environment & Forests and the CPCB provide financial support to the states for the setting up of pilot projects on cost sharing basis for the management of municipal solid waste.

[*Translation*]

National Highways in Madhya Pradesh

3022. SHRI KAILASH JOSHI:
SHRI GANESH SINGH:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the roads declared as National Highways during the year 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07;

(b) whether the Government proposes to declare more such roads as National Highways;

(c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(d) whether the Government proposes to increase the length of NH under GQP and North-South and East-West Corridor in Madhya Pradesh; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) No new National Highways have been declared during the years 2004-05. The details of the National Highways declared during 2005-06 and 2006-07 are given in the enclosed statement.

(b) and (c) Declaration of more roads as National Highways is not on the priority of the Government since the emphasis at present is on the development of existing National Highways

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Statement

Sl. No.	State	National Highways No.	Stretch	Length(Km)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Jammu and Kashmir	ID	Srinagar-Kargil-Leh	422
2.	Uttar Pradesh	NEII	Eastern Peripheral Expressway	90
		24B	Lucknow-Rai Bareilly-Allahabad	185
			Sub Total	275

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Tamil Nadu	226	Thanjavur-Gandharvakottai-Sivaganga-Manamadurai	144
		227	Thiruchirappalli-connecting-Lalgudi-Kumaratchi-Chidambaram	135
			Sub Total	279
4.	Gujarat	228	Ahmedabad-Dandi (Dandi heritage route)	374
5.	West Bengal	2B	Burdwan-Bolpur	52
			Sub Total	59
6.	Bihar	2C	Dehri-Akbarpur-Bihar/UP Border	105
7.	Haryana	NEII	Eastern Peripheral Expressway	44
Grand Total				1551

[English]

Development and Maintenance of Heritage Route

3023. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to refer to USQ No. 3013 dated December 13, 2006 regarding development of Heritage route and state:

(a) whether the National Highways Authority of India has taken over the route for its development and maintenance;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the budgetary allocation has been made in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) The Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 3013 answered on 13.12.2006 referred to in this question, was regarding development of Heritage Route on National Highway (NH)-228 between Ahmedabad-Dandi. National Highways authority of India has initiated the process of taking over charge of Ahmedabad-Dandi heritage Route, National Highway (NH)-228, from Gujarat Government with effect from April, 2007. The details of the stretches taken over so far are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) and (d) No separate budget allocation has been made for this national Highway.

Statement

The details of stretches, taken over so far in the Gujarat state of Ahmedabad-Dandi Heritage Route, National Highway (NH)-228, are as following:

District	Documents received/Charge taken over from concerned division (In Km)						Total
	NH	SH	ODR	MDR	VR	Other/ Missing Link	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Ahmedabad	12	7.00	—	—	—	—	19.00
Kheda	18.90	19.27	—	6.70	9.00	0.30	54.17
Anand	0.30	35.35	—	2.60	13.70	—	51.85

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Bharuch	0.00	70.80	—	4.80	38.10	23.00	136.70
Surat	—	24.20	2.70	9.78	0.00	—	36.68
Navsari	0.00	16.00	—	—	—	—	16.00
Total	31.20	172.52	2.70	23.88	60.80	23.30	314.40

Deep Sea Port

3024. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has invited proposals from global firms to conduct techno-economic feasibility study for construction of deep-sea port as reported in Business Line dated the July 26, 2007;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total number of proposals under consideration of the Government for setting up of deep sea-ports;

(d) the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (e) The Government of India has invited proposals to provide consultancy services for development of a modern deep sea port on the coastline of West Bengal. At present, there is one proposal for setting up of deep sea port along the coastline of West Bengal. Based on the responses received, seven firms have been short-listed. The Request for Participation (RFP) document has been issued to these seven shortlisted consultants on 20th July, 2007. The scope of the work, envisaged in the RFP document, inter-alia includes Techno-Economic Pre-Feasibility, site selection, preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR), project structuring, preparation of bid documents, bid process management and supervision till the commissioning of the project.

WHO Report on Pollution

3025. SHRI JASUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD:
SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU:
SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:
SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per the Report of WHO, pollution is a major killer in India as reported in The Hindustan Times, dated June 15, 2007;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) The study entitled "Preventive Disease through Healthy Environments" was undertaken by World Health Organization (WHO) in 2002 and is based on limited data for statistical analysis. It is stated in the Report that globally, an estimated 24% of the disease burden (healthy life years lost) and an estimated 23% of all deaths (premature mortality) are attributable to environmental factors like unsafe drinking water, poor sanitation, respiratory infections associated with indoor air pollution etc.

(c) The study undertaken by WHO is based on limited data for any meaningful statistical analysis. The WHO has itself observed in the report that in view of scarce quantitative data, the estimates were provided by experts in environmental health and health care.

(d) To abate and control environmental pollution, various steps have been initiated including the following:

- Notification of effluent and emission standards for various industries; identification of industries discharging effluents into rivers and lakes for setting up of water pollution control devices;
- Preparation of Action Plans for Ambient Air Quality Management for various cities;
- Encouragement to cleaner production technologies;
- Regular monitoring of industrial units for environmental compliance;
- Issuing directions under Environmental Acts in case of non complying units.

[Translation]

Rehabilitation of Adivasi and SCs on Forest Land

3026. SHRI CHANDRABHAN SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposals regarding rehabilitation of adivasis and the people belonging to the Scheduled Castes on the forest land have been received from the Madhya Pradesh Government;

(b) if so, the details of the period and number of such proposals received; and

(c) the number of pending cases and the time by which the rehabilitation process is likely to be completed in these cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY):

(a) to (c) The Ministry of Environment and Forests has received 15 proposals from the State Government of Madhya Pradesh for the rehabilitation of people, including adivasis and the people belonging to the Scheduled Castes on forest land. During the period 1986 to 1996, 7 proposals were received, while during the period from 1996 till date, 8 proposals have been received from the State Government. Out of the 15 proposals received, 6 proposals have been approved and one proposal has been accorded in-principle approval by this Ministry. Of the remaining 8 proposals, 7 proposals are pending with the State Government of Madhya Pradesh for want of essential details, whereas 1 proposal has been rejected. As such, no proposal for the rehabilitation of people on

forest land, received from the State Government of Madhya Pradesh, is pending with the Ministry of Environment and Forests.

[English]

Profit of SCI

3027. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Shipping Corporation of India has earned considerable profit during the current financial year;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken during the current year for augmenting growth of the company?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) During the first quarter of 2007-08, Shipping Corporation of India (SCI) has posted a net profit after tax of Rs.206.12 crore. The bulk segment of SCI has recorded Rs.218.82 crore profit before tax and interest and other segment which includes off-shore, passenger vessels and ships managed on behalf of other organization has recorded a profit of Rs. 15.77 crore before tax and interest. Liner Division has recorded a loss of Rs.46.28 crore.

(c) SCI is the premier shipping company in India with its presence in almost every shipping segment. In order to retain its numero-uno position and maintain the market share, the SCI has plan to acquire about 62 vessels during the eleventh Five Year Plan period (2007-2012). Replacement of old vessels and addition of new vessels in the fleet will empower SCI to continue making substantial profits in the future also.

Poor Sanitation as Environmental Problem

3028. SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether poor sanitation in Asia has created major environmental problems as reported in *The Hindustan Times* dated August 8, 2007; and

(b) if so the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) In a news report entitled "Bank faults Asia for poor sanitation" appeared in the Hindustan Times dated 8.8.2007 some observations were stated to have been made by Asian Development Bank, not specific to India but on lack of proper sanitation in Asia as a whole which leads to pollution of surface and ground water.

In addition to the works undertaken by the Ministry of Urban Development for improving sanitation, this Ministry is implementing two Centrally Sponsored Schemes namely, the National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) and National Lake Conservation Plan (NLCP) to tackle domestic pollution load in rivers and lakes of the country. The NLCP covers conservation/rejuvenation works in 46 lakes in 13 states with an approved cost of Rs. 567 crore. The NRCP covers 160 towns in 20 states with an approved cost of Rs. 4783 crore and the Pollution abatement measures undertaken under the Plan include Interception & Diversion (I&D), Sewage Treatment Plant (STP), Low Cost Sanitation (LCS) Electric and/or improved wood based crematoria, River Front Development (RFD) works such as improvement of bathing ghats and other activities like Afforestation, Public Participation etc. Among others, a total of 2924 million litres per day of sewage treatment capacity and 138 schemes of Low Cost Sanitation (LCS) have been completed under NRCP.

State Road of Inter State Connectivity

3029. SHRI MOHAN JENA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of proposals forwarded by the State Governments for sanction under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for State Roads of Inter State Connectivity and of economic importance during 2006-07, State-wise;

(b) whether the Chhatia-Kalakala road in Jajpur district of Orissa is yet to be approved; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the fund is likely to be released for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) The State-wise details of proposals for sanction received from the State Governments for improvement of State Roads under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for State Roads of Inter State Connectivity (ISC) and of Economic Importance (EI) during 2006-07 is given in the enclosed statement.

(b) and (c) The proposal for the Chhatia-Kalakala road on Jaipur district of Orissa was found to be deficient and returned to the State Government.

Statement

The State-wise details of proposals for sanction received from the State Governments for improvement of State Roads under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for State Roads of Inter State Connectivity (ISC) and of Economic Importance (EI) during 2006-07.

Sl. No.	State	No.	Cost (Rs. in Crore)	No.	Cost (Rs. in Crore)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0	0	2	8.69
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	14.47	0	0
3.	Assam	2	4.95	0	0
4.	Bihar	1	3.89	0	0.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	0	0.00	3	52.00
6.	Goa	0	0.00	0	0.00
7.	Gujarat	2	7.01	1	3.61
8.	Haryana	The information is being collected			
9.	Himachal Pradesh				

1	2	3	4	5	6
10.	Jammu and Kashmir				
11.	Jharkhand	2	47.69	2	56.63
12.	Karnataka	6	33.58	1	14.27
13.	Kerala	3	26.29	0	0.00
14.	Madhya Pradesh	12	53.31	4	13.16
15.	Maharashtra	2	6.70	1	4.95
16.	Manipur	0	0.00	0	0.00
17.	Meghalaya	0	0.00	0	0.00
18.	Mizoram	0	0.00	0	0.00
19.	Nagaland	0	0.00	1	21.92
20.	Orissa	2	9.96	2	9.30
21.	Punjab	The information is being collected			
22.	Rajasthan	6	15.19	0	0.00
23.	Sikkim	2	12.00	0	0.00
24.	Tamilnadu	1	16.94	0	0.00
25.	Tripura	0	0.00	0	0.00
26.	Uttarakhand	The information is being collected			
27.	Uttar Pradesh				
28.	West Bengal	1	7.75	0	0.00
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	The information is being collected			
30.	Chandigarh	The information is being collected			
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	2	5.89	0	0.00
32.	Daman and Diu	0	0.00	0	0.00
33.	Delhi	The information is being collected			
34.	Lakshadweep	0	0.00	0	0.00
35.	Pondicherry	0	0.00	0	0.00

*[Translation]***Irregularities in Distribution of Medicines**

3030. PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:
SHRI SHISHUPAL N. PATLE:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
be pleased to state:

(a) whether cases of irregularities in distribution of medicines in the Government hospitals have come to the notice of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total amount spent for purchasing medicines by these hospitals during the last year;

(d) the total amount of medicines which have been sold in the market by forging prescription slips in the name of the poor;

(e) the number of hospitals where such cases have been detected and the number of hospitals staff found to involved; and

(f) the action taken by the Government against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (f) No cases of irregularities in distribution of medicines in the Central Government Hospitals in Delhi have come to notice. However, in Dr. RML Hospital one case has been detected where one of the employees of the hospital was making bogus/fake prescription and getting medicines issued. That person has been placed under suspension and Delhi Police have registered a case against him under FIR no. 340/07 under IPC Section 409/411/120-B dated 17.08.2007.

No separate funds are provided for purchasing medicines. The Central Government Hospitals are procuring medicines from funds allocated for supplies and materials.

Complaint against performance of SAI

3031. SHRIMATI RUPATAI D. PATIL: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether complaints against the performance of Sports Authority of India have been received;

(b) if so, whether the Government proposes to review the performance of Sports Authority of India on the basis of the complaints received; and

(c) if so, the steps taken in the direction of bringing about suitable changes in the Sports Authority of India to nurture players and sports talents of the country?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ, MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (c) Complaints about the performance of the Sports Authority of India (SAI) are routinely received in the Ministry and dealt with in consultation with Director General, SAI or taken up in the SAI Governing Body and its Committees. During their

recent visit to different SAI Centres, the Parliamentary Standing Committee elated to the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports have given a number of commendations for developing and strengthening SAI infrastructure und its activities. These are being acted upon. Moreover, the draft Comprehensive Sports Policy, 2007 calls for:

"Thorough revamping of the Sports Authority of India and the Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangaman to match up to the new and onerous additional responsibilities that would devolve on them for them to effectively fulfill for role in the realization of the aims and objectives of the Comprehensive Sports Policy"

Theft of Passports

3032. SHRI CHANDRA MANI TRIPATHI:
SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Diplomatic Passports were found missing from the Government Printing Press, Nashik in Maharashtra, as reported in 'Asian Age' dated May 28, 2007;

(b) whether incident of theft of passports from Palam Airport has also been reported;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the passports reported missing have been recovered;

(e) if not, the steps taken to recover them;

(f) the precautions taken against misuse of these blank Diplomatic Passports by unauthorized persons; and

(g) the steps envisaged to prevent the recurrence of such cases in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED): (a) to (c) 500 ordinary passport booklets which were sent by India Security Press, Nashik through Speed Post to the Diplomatic Bag Section of the Ministry of External Affairs for onward despatch to Indian Missions abroad were stolen at Palam Airport, Delhi.

(d) to (f) The Delhi Police has recovered 467 passport booklets and 33 are still missing. The Delhi Police is making efforts to trace the remaining 33 passport booklets and to arrest the culprits. In the meanwhile, the Ministry has revoked all 33 missing passport booklets to prevent their misuse.

(g) It has been decided that all consignments of travel documents originating from ISP, Nashik will henceforth be designated as sensitive material and Department of Posts will ensure greater vigilance till their receipt by the consignee. A software system is also being developed to track and monitor movement of travel documents with automatic alarm generation provision for non-receipt of consignment within the stipulated time.

[English]

National Lake Conservation Plan

3033. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka has submitted six proposals on Integrated Conservation of Amanikere at Tumkur, Begaum Talab in Bijapur, Unakal lake at Hubli, Muchakandhi lake at Bagalkot, Jagalur lake in Davangere District, Gowramma Tank and Hombalamma Tank in Magadi Town under National Lake Conservation Plan (NLCP) to the Union Government;

(b) if so, the cost of each of these projects;

(c) whether these proposals are still pending with the Union Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(e) the time by which a final decision on these proposals is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (b) Yes, Sir. The Government of Karnataka has submitted proposals for conservation/restoration and management of Amanikere tank at Tumkur (Rs.10.05 crore), Unkal lake at Hubli (Rs. 12.07 crore), Muchakandi lake at Bagalkot (Rs.1.58 crore), Jagalur lake at

Davangere (Rs.10.00 crore) and Gowramma & Hombalamma tanks at Magadi, Bangalore (Rs.4.63 crore), for consideration under the National Lake Conservation Plan (NLCP).

(c) to (e) The proposal for Muchakandi lake was not found to be covered under the mandate of NLCP and its rejection has been informed to the State Government. In respect of proposals on Amanikere tank, Unkal lake and conservation of tanks in Magadi town, the State Government has been asked to provide technical clarifications and other details in addition to the pre-requisite mandatory inputs such as commitments to bear State share of project cost and operation and maintenance details. The response from the State Government has not been received. The pending project proposals having technical deficiencies need modifications by the State Government. The proposals for new lakes are considered subject to their admissibility as per NLCP guidelines, prioritization, pollution status and availability of funds under the Plan.

Exodus of Scientists from ISRO

3034. SHRI K.S. RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian space scientists are leaving the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO);

(b) if so, the number and percentage of space scientists leaving ISRO each year during the last three years and the reasons therefor;

(c) the steps taken to encourage and motivate students in schools and colleges to join space studies and space research;

(d) whether the Government proposes to take new initiatives in this regard and provide higher financial benefits to space scientists;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b)

Year	Total number of Scientists/Engineers Recruited	Total No. of Scientists/Engineers left ISRO during the year	Scientists/Engineers left as % of Scientists/Engineers recruited during the year
2004	360	105	29.17%
2005	346	100	28.90%
2006	354	187	52.82%

Stupendous growth of Information Technology & Communication Sector in the Country and the higher remunerative packages being offered by the Private Sector are the main reasons for the Scientists/Engineers to leave ISRO.

(c) The steps taken to encourage and motivate students in schools and colleges to join space studies and space research include, providing opportunity for visits to ISRO Centres; organisation of open house discussions, exhibitions, competitions, seminars on the National Science Day, every year, etc.

(d) to (f) The Department of Space has submitted a proposal to the Vth Pay Commission for the enhanced Pay and Special Incentives such as performance based annual increments, special allowances etc., for ISRO Scientists/Engineers.

[Translation]

Disposal of Hospital Waste

3035. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has issued any guidelines to dispose of the hospital waste;

(b) if, so, whether there is any mechanism to dispose of the waste of private sector hospitals in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government in view of the spread of diseases due to the hospital waste?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) Ministry of Environment and Forests has notified Bio-medical (Management & Handling) Rules, 1998 and amendments thereof under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. These rules specify about collection, segregation, labeling, storage, transportation, treatment and disposal of Bio-medical Wastes(BMW) and are mandatory for every occupier of an institution generating bio-medical wastes to take steps to ensure that such wastes are handled without any adverse effect to human and environment. There are "Common Bio-medical Waste Treatment Facilities (CBWTF)", which provide facility to treat bio-medical wastes of Government Hospitals as well as private sector health care units.

[English]

Unscientific Afforestation

3036. SHRI RANEN BARMAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether environmental balance has been disturbed due to the unscientific afforestation of Vilayati Babool (*Pedrus Juliflora*) in India;

(b) whether there has been adverse impact on wild animals as a result thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY):

(a) No, Sir. However, the *Prosopis Juliflora* grows in adverse climatic and edaphic conditions such as highly alkaline soil and dry areas. This species also spread very

fast on good soil through natural seed dispersal, even without doing plantations.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. However, in some of the areas, it affects the grasslands which is the habitat of wild animals such as Black buck and Nilgai. The Government of India is providing assistance to the States/ Union Territories under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries for habitat improvement.

National Mental Health Programme

3037. SHRI K.C. PALLANI SHAMY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the allocations made for implementation of the National Mental Health Programme (NMHP) during each of the last three years, State-wise; and

(b) the steps taken to provide adequate medical assistance to the mentally ill patients in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) Grants to State Governments are released on receipt of the complete proposals from the State Governments. A list showing the funds released to the States/Union Territories during 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 is given in the enclosed statement.

(b) Under National Mental Health Programme efforts are made to provide mental health as a part of general health system. In this regard, the Central Govt. supplements the State Govt. efforts through District Mental Health Programme, Strengthening of Psychiatric Wings of Medical Colleges/General Hospitals and Modernisation/ Upgradation of Mental Hospitals to make them as therapeutic units. During 10th Plan District Mental Health Programme was expanded from 27 districts to 128 districts, 71 psychiatric wings of medical colleges/ Govt. hospitals were strengthened and 23 mental hospitals were modernized.

Statement

Sl.No.	State/UT	Amount released (In Rupees)		
		2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5833610	31800000	45311000
2.	Chhattisgarh	7860000	0	17460000
3.	Goa	28100	0	0
4.	Gujarat	7860000	50542000	27248000
5.	Haryana	0	5000000	0
6.	Himachal Pradesh	2620000	0	0
7.	Jammu and Kashmir	10480000	4300000	5000000
8.	Jharkhand	27420000	0	0
9.	Karnataka	12080000	4900000	43780800
10.	Kerala	13549150	64500000	3299258
11.	Madhya Pradesh	5240000	30100000	29975000
12.	Maharashtra	6231000	87540000	33406000

1	2	3	4	5
13.	Orissa	15720000	15100000	0
14.	Punjab	0	0	18440000
15.	Rajasthan	0	0	0
16.	Tamil Nadu	25757000	31700000	19852000
17.	Uttar Pradesh	29068960	44592000	30000000
18.	Uttaranchal	0	0	0
19.	West Bengal	0	53920000	26917000
20.	Arunachal Pradesh	527250	0	4420000
21.	Assam	15860000	35000000	3825000
22.	Manipur	2050000	8723000	0
23.	Meghalaya	0	0	0
24.	Mizoram	1159000	0	3531000
25.	Nagaland	0	3628000	0
26.	Sikkim	1149000	0	0
27.	Tripura	542000	0	5000000
28.	Chandigarh	473030	834600	3609600
29.	Daman and Diu	935696	500000	4000000
30.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0	2620000
31.	Delhi	3396500	0	8130000
32.	Pondicherry	150000	0	0
33.	Bihar	0	0	0
34.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0
35.	Andman and Nicobar Islands	0	0	0

Chloride Content in Yamuna Water

3038. SHRI JOACHIM BAXLA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Chloride Content in the Yamuna River Water has been found to be high;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the extent of contamination; and

(c) the concrete steps taken by the Government to ensure that the untreated waste from factories is not released into the river?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) As reported by Central Pollution Control Board, the chloride content in the water of river Yamuna has been observed to be generally within the permissible limits of 250 milligram per litre for drinking water quality. However, at some locations, chloride values have been

found higher than the prescribed limits. The chloride is generally contributed to water bodies due to disposal of domestic and industrial effluents and surface run off from river catchment area. Under the Yamuna Action Plan (YAP) Phase-I launched by this Ministry in 1993 in the three states of UP, Haryana and Delhi, various pollution abatement schemes for tackling domestic sewage have been implemented. The mandate of this Action Plan is to achieve water quality for bathing class. A total of 257 schemes have been completed under this Plan, including setting up of 34 sewage treatment plants for creating additional treatment capacity of 750 million litres per day (mld), of which 402 mld is in UP, 318 mld in Haryana and 30 mld in Delhi. The industrial pollution on the other hand is tackled through the implementation of legal provisions under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. Further, as per report of CPCB, no specific industry causing increase in chloride content, has been identified on river Yamuna.

Use of Silver Foil

3039. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that the use of silver foil in the preparation of sweets and other eatables are highly harmful for human consumption which contains nickel, lead, chromium and cadmium;

(b) whether cases of violation of PFA Act has come to the notice of the Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(d) the action taken by the Government in each case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) The standard for silver leaf (Chandi ka warq) food grade is prescribed under Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules, 1955. It shall contain not less than 99.9 percent of silver.

(b) to (d) The implementation of PFA Act and Rules, 1955 is carried out by States/UTs Food Health Authorities who take samples from time to time and take necessary action as per the provisions of PFA Act, 1954, wherever the samples are found to be not conforming to standards for violating the provisions of PFA Act, 1954 and PFA

Rules, 1955. The States/UTs Governments have been requested to check the samples of silver leaf used in food and take necessary action in case of violation of provisions of PFA Rules, 1955.

[Translation]

Vacant Posts in CGHS

3040. SHRI RAKESH SINGH:
SHRI CHANDRABHAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether large number of posts of medical and Para-medical staff are vacant in various CGHS Dispensaries including CGHS, Unani Medical Store Depot;

(b) if so, the details thereof, category-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to fill up the vacant posts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) There are 331 medical and 293 para-medical posts vacant in CGHS. The details are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) Steps to fill these vacant posts have already been initiated.

Statement

Details of Medical and Para-medical Posts Vacant in CGHS

Medical (As on 30.6.2007)

1.	SAG	65
2.	GDMOs	161
3.	Specialists	53
4.	Dental Surgeon	8
5.	AYUSH	44
Total		331

Para-Medical (as on 31.3.2007)

1.	Store Supdt/Asstt SS	4
2.	Sr. ANM/ANM	21
3.	Dental Tech./Hgienis	3
4.	Dark Room Asstt.	4
5.	Sr. ECG/ECG Tech.	3
6.	Lab.Tech	27
7.	Lab Asstt.	8
8.	Sr. Pharmacist	4
9.	Pharmacist (Allopathy)	114
10.	Pharmacist (Homeo)	10
11.	Pharmacist (Unani)	1
12.	Pharmacist (Ayurvedic)	9
13.	Radiographer X-ray Tech.	5
14.	Staff Nurse	78
15.	Store Keeper	2
Total		293

*[English]***Modern Equipment in ICU**

3041. SHRI G. M. SIDDESWARA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the WHO has assessed that Intensive Care Units (ICU) in Indian hospitals do not match global standards;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the hospitals with ICU facility are equipped with modern equipment

(d) if not, the action taken by the Government in this regard;

(e) whether all hospitals are having trained para-medical staff; and

(f) if not, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) The World Health Organization has informed that they have not undertaken any evaluation of ICUs in India.

(c) and (d) All the Central Government Hospitals with ICU facilities are equipped with modern equipments.

(e) and (f) The trained para-medical staff are available in all the Central Government Hospitals.

High Incidence of Cancer in Alappuzha

3042. DR. K.S. MANOJ: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has conducted any study on high incidence of cancer in the Alappuzha district of Kerala; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and outcome thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) No, Sir. There is no recorded evidence to show that the cancer incidence is increasing in Alappuzha district. The limited data available for the year 2001-02 with Cancer Atlas project of Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) reported crude rate of 21.07 in Alappuzha district as compared to 38.5 in thirteen other districts of Kerala.

Separate Commission for Medical Health

3043. SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up a separate Commission for medical and health education and to promote health care in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is also a proposal formulate a system of accreditation of training institutions; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) There is a proposal for

establishment of Medical Grants Commission. The details are being worked out in consultation with the Planning Commission.

(c) No. Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Bridges at NH 60

3044. SHRI SUNIL KHAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to divert NH-60 from Midnapur to Raniganj via Bankura district of West Bengal due to subsidence area of Raniganj;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal for reconstruction of the Bridges at Sale, Tarapore and Kasinara on NH-60;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) There is no proposal to divert NH-60 from Midnapur to Raniganj via Bankura district of West Bengal due to subsidence area of Raniganj. However, as per Feasibility Study conducted for upgradation of this section, bypasses at Chandrakona and Mangalpur have been identified to avoid congested townships.

(c) to (e) Reconstruction of the Bridges at Sale, Tarapore and Kasinara on NH-60 are provided in the Annual Plan 2007-08. The proposals for these bridges are awaited from the State Government.

[Translation]

National Policy on Yoga

3045. SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Yoga has been found useful for good health;

(b) if so, the details thereof and reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether the Government has prepared any National Policy on Yoga; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Yoga is a way of life, an art of healthy living, an integrated system for the benefit of the body and mind. Yoga is for the attainment of the physical, mental and spiritual health. Research work carried out by Yoga institutes like Swami Vivekananda Yoga Research Foundation (Bangalore), Kaivalyadhama (Lonavla) etc. has proved that Yoga is useful for good health.

(c) and (d) The Government of India has prepared National Policy on Indian Systems of Medicine and Homeopathy (ISM&H)—2002 which includes Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homeopathy. This Policy outlines the following basic objectives.

- (i) To promote good health and expand the outreach of health care to our people, particularly those not provided health cover, through preventive, promotive, mitigating and curative intervention through ISM&H.
- (ii) To improve the quality of teachers and clinicians by revising curricula to contemporary relevance and research by creating model institutions and Centres of Excellence and extending assistance for creating infrastructural facilities.
- (iii) To ensure affordable ISM&H services & drugs which are safe and efficacious.
- (iv) To facilitate availability of raw drugs which are authentic and contain essential components as required under pharmacopoeial standards to help improve quality of drugs, for domestic consumption and export.
- (v) Integrate ISM&H in health care delivery system and National Programmes and ensure optimal use of the vast infrastructure of hospitals, dispensaries and physicians.
- (vi) Re-orient and prioritize research in ISM&H to gradually validate therapy and drugs to address

in particular the chronic and new life style related emerging diseases.

- (vii) Create awareness about the strengths of these systems in India and abroad and sensitize other stakeholders and providers of health.
- (viii) To provide full opportunity for the growth and development of these systems and utilization of the potentiality, strength and revival of their glory.

[English]

Appointment of Agents by SCI

3046. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH:
SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Shipping Corporation of India has appointed agents to provide their services to customers;
- (b) if so, the details of the services being provided by such agents;
- (c) the criteria for appointment of agents by SCI;
- (d) whether the agents of SCI violate guidelines for submission of their accounts to the company;
- (e) if so, the number of agents who have violated such guidelines during each of the last three years;
- (f) the details of the penalty imposed on them during the said period; and
- (g) the action taken to check the recurrence of such offence in future?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) Shipping Corporation of India(SCI) is having a wide network of agents spread across the globe. Brief details of the services provided by the agents appointed by SCI are enumerated below:

- (i) To attend to Custom House, Port Health, Immigration Consular and other formalities and arrange pilotage and towage, if required, for prompt entry of our vessel in the port.

- (ii) To attend to the vessel's all husbanding needs while in port as instructed by SCI and/or by vessel's master including supply of provision, bunkers, water, stores, receipt and dispatch of spare parts, repairs to ships' equipments, cash advance to the Master, delivery and dispatch of crew mail, legal assistance, medical attendance and hospitalization of ships' crew and other personnel, rendering assistance in signing-on and signing-off of crew and other personnel, arranging for crew/officers hotel accommodation, repatriation etc. or any other service as required by SCI and all other logistical support as and when required.

- (iii) Liaise with the Port State Control and other authorities for prompt dispatch/ turnaround of the vessels.
- (iv) Information about the vessel's arrival/berthing/ daily working/departure is to be communicated to the controlling service and operating departments.
- (v) Cargo solicitation, cargo booking/receiving, liaison with Inland Container Depot(ICD)/Container Freight Station(CFS) operators for stuffing/de-stuffing of export cargoes, cargo documentation, preparation and issuance of shipping orders, close liaison and co-ordination with ICD/CFS operators, railways, customs and shippers, Cost and Freight(C&F) agents etc. to ensure prompt carting, stuffing, transporting of cargo etc.
- (vi) To notify shippers and/or consignees about arrival of ships, readiness to load/ discharge cargoes and to co-ordinate with stevedores, terminal operators, customs etc. for the prompt and proper handling of the ships/cargo.
- (vii) To obtain all permits, licenses etc. as and when required by SCI for import/usage/export of all goods, materials, machinery and equipment utilized by SCI.
- (viii) To track and monitor movement and condition of containers on SCI inventory with terminal operators and transporters, depot operators and CFS operators, as and when required.
- (ix) To represent SCI at the local meetings of shipping conference.

- (x) Any other jobs entrusted to the agents by the Corporation from time to time.

(c) Agents of SCI are appointed at major ports/region of the world, wherever SCPs vessels ply, to cater to the requirements of vessels calling at that port. The need for appointment of agent arises when any SCI vessels call at particular port/ area where no agent is there to cater to the needs of the vessel and/or possibility of cargo/ business generation is available/perceived by SCI. Whenever an existing agent intends to wind up their business with SCI or SCI terminates their services, a new agent is required to be appointed to ensure uninterrupted services to SCI's vessels and business. The criteria for eligibility includes experience and financial credentials.

(d) According to the guidelines earlier prescribed, submission of voyage accounts by the agents to the Company was to be made within 20 days. However, many agents expressed difficulties in submitting complete voyage accounts with proper supporting documents as required by the agency agreement within the time frame issued by the SCI mainly due to non-receipt of supporting documents from port authorities or from the service providers. Accordingly, the guidelines are now revised and all the agents are required to submit voyage accounts within 35 days from the date of sailing of the vessel.

(e) and (f) As far as penalty for violating guidelines for submission of accounts is concerned, no such penalty has been imposed on any of the agents yet. However, the services of some agents were terminated for certain irregularities during past three years as per the following details:

Name of the agent	Date of termination
(i) Kanoo Group, Dubai	— 09.04.2006
(ii) Yusuf-bin-Ahmed Kanoo W.L.L, Bahrain	— 09.04.2006
(iii) Yusuf-bin-Ahmed Kanoo, Ras Tanura	— 09.04.2006
(iv) State Enterprise for Water Transport, Basrah	— 31.07.2006
(v) R. Jumabhoy and Sons, Penang	— 13.12.2006
(vi) Ahlers Agency N.V. Antwerp	— 26.12.2006
(vii) R.A. Burke, Dublin	— 08.02.2007

(g) Clauses have been inserted in the revised agency agreements with provision for levying penalty if submission of accounts by the agents is violated. This will work as a deterrent for the agents. Additionally, monitoring and reconciliation of account have been beefed up in the office to keep proper control of the expenses and finances of agents accounts. SCI is also endeavoring to arrange inspection of major agents' accounts, functions, infrastructure, services rendered by the agent etc. periodically so as to enable them render better services to SCI. SCI has drawn up a schedule to visit all its major agents over the period of next 24 months. SCI has planned to visit following agents during the month of August/September, 2007 and 3 or 4 more agents between September-December, 2007

(i) M/s. A.V. Bhanoji Row Garuda	Visakhapatnam.
(ii) M/s. Oceanmasters L.L.C.,	Dubai & other U.A.E. ports.
(iii) M/s. KNS Agency,	U.S.A.

SCI has also commenced an agency grading system in which major agents are rated by-annually by various divisions and then a corporate grading is prepared and depending upon the ratings obtained by the agents, follow up actions are being taken by SCI to improve the performance of the agents.

Coastal Zone Management Plan for Navi Mumbai

3047. SHRI MILIND DEORA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received a proposal on Coastal Zone Management Plan (CZMP) for Navi Mumbai;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the proposal is pending with the Union Government;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the time by which the proposal is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Central Government had received the proposal from the State Government of Maharashtra seeking approval of the revised Coastal Zone Management Plan (CZMP) of Navi Mumbai on 25th November, 1998 under the Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ), Notification, 1991. The proposal sought reclassification of certain stretches of Navi Mumbai from CRZ-III to CRZ-II and was not accepted.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Supreme Court Directives on Noise Pollution

3048. SHRI RAGHUVeer SINGH KOSHAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court has issued any directives to check noise pollution;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any Central Model Lane in the aforesaid context;

(d) if so, whether compliance of the directives issued by the Supreme Court have been ensured in this regard;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether any guidelines have been issued by the Government in this regard; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) The Hon'ble Supreme Court in the matter of Writ Petition No. 72 of 1998 regarding Noise Pollution-Implementation of Laws for restricting use of loudspeakers and high volume producing system - has directed in its judgement of July 2005, the measures to be taken for control of noise from fire crackers, loudspeakers, vehicles etc. and the need for creating general awareness amongst the public at all levels towards the effects of noise pollution.

(d) and (e) In pursuance of the orders of Hon'ble of Supreme Court, State Governments and Union Territories

were requested to draw an action plan in order to ensure compliance of Hon'ble Court's directions. The State Governments have also been requested to monitor the noise levels regularly, in particular, during festive seasons.

(f) and (g) The Ministry had issued the Noise Pollution (Regulation and Control) Rules, 2000 in February, 2000 covering the ambient air quality standards in respect of noise in different areas/zones, restriction on the use of loudspeakers during night hours (10.00 p.m. to 6.00 a.m.) etc. In a subsequent amendment of October, 2002, State Government(s) were empowered to permit use of loudspeakers and public address systems during night hours (between 10.00 p.m. to 12.00 midnight) on or during any cultural or religious festive occasions of a limited duration not exceeding 15 days in all during the calendar year. In addition, Noise norms have been notified for motor vehicles, firecrackers, diesel generator sets for control of noise levels at manufacturing stage.

Amount Spent on Afforestation

3049. SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA:

SHRI TUKARAM GANPATRAO RENGE PATIL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the amount spent on afforestation during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the details of the amount earned from forests during each of the last three years;

(c) whether the forest mafia are active in several forests causing damage to the forests;

(d) if so, the number of such incidents taken place during the last three years alongwith the details of the action taken by the Government in this regard; and

(e) the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY):

(a) The Ministry of Environment and Forests is implementing National Afforestation Programme (NAP) Scheme in the country for regeneration of degraded forests and adjoining lands. The scheme is being implemented through a two-tier decentralized mechanism of Forest Development Agency (FDA) at the Forest Division level and Joint Forest Management Committees (JFMCs) at village level. Details of amount spent during

last three years, State-wise, (2004-05 to 2006-07) given in the enclosed statement-I.

(b) This Ministry does not maintain the records of income received from forests.

(c) to (e) No report regarding active involvement of mafia in causing damage to forests has been received.

However incidents of illicit felling do take place and the details as reported by State Governments are given in the enclosed statement-II. The protection and management of the forests is the responsibility of concerned State Government and action against the offender is taken as per the existing Acts/Rules in place. This information is not maintained at Government of India level.

Statement I

Funds released under National Afforestation Programme Amount Released

(Rs. Crores)

Sl. No.	State	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	14.33	7.08	11.06	32.47
2.	Chhattisgarh	17.63	17.63	13.05	48.31
3.	Gujarat	9.01	12.34	17.53	38.88
4.	Haryana	7.46	4.35	9.20	21.01
5.	Himachal Pradesh	10.60	9.08	11.56	31.24
6.	Jammu and Kashmir	4.09	5.39	5.83	15.31
7.	Karnataka	21.49	23.05	23.54	68.08
8.	Madhya Pradesh	17.38	12.61	15.83	45.82
9.	Maharashtra	13.32	14.89	15.93	44.14
10.	Orissa	11.97	12.05	14.07	38.09
11.	Punjab	0.14	3.97	3.37	7.48
12.	Rajasthan	4.80	7.26	5.62	17.68
13.	Tamil Nadu	14.48	20.92	17.22	52.62
14.	Uttar Pradesh	18.54	17.04	11.88	47.46
15.	Uttaranchal	10.88	13.35	11.51	35.54
16.	Goa	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
17.	Jharkhand	8.66	7.85	19.03	35.54
18.	Bihar	2.74	3.42	4.94	11.10
19.	Kerala	1.48	5.04	12.75	19.27
20.	West Bengal	6.03	5.92	7.00	18.95
Total (Other States)		195.03	203.24	230.92	629.19

1	2	3	4	5	6
21.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.76	2.89	2.93	6.58
22.	Assam	8.03	5.50	13.60	27.13
23.	Manipur	5.43	6.30	7.78	19.51
24.	Nagaland	5.60	5.37	7.22	18.19
25.	Sikkim	4.37	6.43	7.41	18.21
26.	Tripura	4.66	4.27	4.37	13.30
27.	Mizoram	11.70	10.06	13.09	34.85
28.	Meghalaya	2.45	5.18	5.44	13.07
Total (NE States)		43.00	46.00	61.84	150.84
Grand Total		238.03	249.24	292.76	780.03

Statement II

S.No.	States	2003-04				2004-05				2005-06			
		No. of cases of illicit felling of trees	No. of tress illicitly felled	Loss of Timber (volume in cubic meters)	Value of losses (Rs. in lakhs)	No. of cases of illicit felling of trees	No. of trees illicitly felled	Loss of Timber (volume in cubic meters)	Value of losses (Rs. in lakhs)	No. of cases of illicit felling of trees	No. of trees illicitly felled	Loss of Timber (volume in cubic meters)	Value of losses (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Other States													
1.	Andhra Pradesh	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
2.	Bihar	252	3045	59.13	1.81	236	1979	84.1	2.06	122	856	72.83	2.05
3.	Chhattisgarh	14637	123504	8961.09	318.65	12689	111258	8795.51	277.03	15165	105134	9347.1	299.33
4.	Gujarat	8846	72241	4559	642.09	8333	64578	4163	609.51	8470	61832	4314	609.15
5.	Goa	237	811	244.83	5.85	269	788	127.4	9.1	212	901	140.86	5.01
6.	Haryana	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	5153	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
7.	Himachal Pradesh	2862	4198	1708.436	114.11	4079	4792	2038.513	142.8	1515	2404	1245.495	72.48
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
9.	Jharkhand	914	4097	655.47	30.18	620	8323	324.9	19.21	449	8538	375.79	20.76
10.	Karnataka	7674	8736	2678.76	246.35	6841	8403	2652.97	221.9	5942	7016	2399.43	181.3
11.	Kerala	3908	2790	6363.16	3.81	1297	6151	77,911.90	6.58	978	3045	13570.33	3.99
12.	Madhya Pradesh	45525	287449	NA	NA	38924	239494	NA	NA	42777	240400	NA	NA

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
13.	Maharashtra	43391	210026	18436	1047	37716	192487	16878	917	43567	193296	14732	838
14.	Orissa	39966	55212	14133.19	1172.572	35502	48725	9042.091	714.008	25639	28464	4527.87	349.634
15.	Punjab	4843	15335	4091.93	93.46	3483	13060	4361.63	147.87	3909	12367	3113.64	78.09
16.	Rajasthan	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
17.	Tamil Nadu	41	29	629.972	1.99	34	16	647.465	1.86	27	23	310.65	4.41
18.	Uttar Pradesh	4279	17051	2539.7	90.35	3881	18087	2468.62	92.75	1774	8024	1204.28	50.3
19.	Uttaranchal	1698	3682	1357.49	46.73	1822	6142	1543.17	95.44	1792	4094	2551	49.58
20.	West Bengal	12674	NA	12711.7	973.04	13457		10310.15	926.34	NA	NA	NA	NA
North Eastern States													
1.	Assam	1648	NA	2989.46	96.14	1735	NA	2586.85	124.17	1639	NA	2281.64	91.31
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	189	399	NA	NA	146	382	NA	NA	178	293	NA	NA
3.	Manipur	4	285	260.77	2.4	40	226	504.79	8.22	17	45	555.23	9.28
4.	Meghalaya	NA	NA	NA	NA	159	NA	NA	127	NA	NA	NA	NA
5.	Mizoram		2023	326.39	10.83	NA	NA	490.77	11.84	NA	219	275.26	7.97
6.	Nagaland	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	53.3	0.42	16	NA	575.12	NA
7.	Sikkim	30	35	35.14	3.33	40	45	47.29	5.35	25	65	45.36	3.78
8.	Tripura	467	NA	1761.94	8.8	173	NA	838.23	4.19	960	NA	2036.44	10.18

NA = Not Available

[English]

Construction by China Across the Line of Actual Control

3050. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the massive upgradation and construction of infrastructure across the Line of Actual Control (LAC) by China on their side;

(b) if so, the details of the development and construction; and

(c) the steps taken for augmentation of parallel matching infrastructure on Indian side of LAC?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c) Government are aware

of infrastructure being developed by China in Tibet. This includes the railway line from Golmud in Qinghai province to Lhasa that was formally opened on July 1, 2006. Chinese media reports have stated that the Qinghai-Tibet railway is expected to be extended from Lhasa to Xigaze. There are also reports that the Chinese side is upgrading their oil pipeline to the Tibet Autonomous Region.

Government keep a constant watch on all developments having a bearing on India's security and take all necessary measures to safeguard it.

Retirement Age for Central Health Service Personnel

3051. DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL:
SHRI A.F.G. OSMANI:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the present status of the proposal for increasing the retirement age of sub cadres of General Duty Medical Officers of the Central Health Services;

(b) whether it is a fact that retirement age of only three sub cadres out of four of Central Health Service has been increased;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Cabinet has turned down the proposal for increasing the retirement age of the General Duty Medical Officers; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) The proposal has been referred to 6th Central Pay Commission.

(b) and (c) The age of retirement of only three Specialists sub-cadres of Central Health Service has been increased mainly due to the following reasons:

(i) Shortage of doctors in Specialists sub-cadres

(ii) Late entry of Specialists into Service

(iii) Shortage of teaching faculty.

(d) and (e) The proposal was brought before the Cabinet, which decided not to go ahead with the same, as similar issues are being examined by 6th Central Pay Commission.

Problems Pertaining Poverty, Hunger

3052. SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to find out solutions to a wide range of problems pertaining to poverty, hunger, diseases and illiteracy in the country;

(b) if not, the specific reasons for not formulating any new policy to fight these problems for the protection of poor people in the country; and

(c) if so, the details of the schemes undertaken or proposed to be taken up by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) to (c) The Government has been implementing several programmes in order to extend access to essential public services such as health, education, clean drinking water, sanitation, etc. for improving the standard of living of people, in general, and for people living below the poverty line, in particular. Important among these are National Rural Health Mission, Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission, Swajal Dhara, Total Sanitation Campaign for improving basic services and infrastructure, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme and Indira Awaas Yojana. The Approach Paper to the Eleventh Five Year Plan (2007-08 to 2011-12), as approved by the National Development Council, has set the growth target for the Eleventh Five Year Plan period at 9% per year and aims at putting the economy on a sustainable growth trajectory with a growth of approximately 10% by the end of its period. For the rural economy the Approach Paper to the Eleventh Five Year Plan aims at achieving a growth rate of 4% in agriculture sector. For that there is a focus on improving rural connectivity, scaling up of irrigation potential creation, watershed management, rainwater harvesting and ground water recharge, revitalization of the extension system which links universities and best practices to farmers, etc. The Approach Paper mentions about reducing the disparities across regions and communities by ensuring access to basic physical infrastructure as well as health and education services to all. The Approach Paper has also set monitorable targets for other dimensions of performance such as, in the area of income and poverty, education, health, women and children issues, infrastructure and environment, reflecting the inclusiveness of this growth.

Clinical Trials for New Medicines

3053. SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:
SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Drugs Technical Advisory Board (DTAB) has recommended that drugs discovery firms be allowed to conduct all phases of clinical trials for new medicines discovered in the country or abroad as reported in the 'Business Standard' dated July 18, 2007;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government on the recommendation of DTAB?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The 55th Meeting of the Drug Technical Advisory Board (DTAB) held on 6th July, 2007, agreed for concurrent phase-I clinical trials with new drugs in the country.

These DTAB recommendations are now under process for amendments in Schedule of Drugs & Cosmetics Act & Rules thereunder.

[Translation]

National River Water Conservation Plan

3054. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the schemes sanctioned under the National River Water Conservation Scheme during the period from the year 2003 to June 2007, river-wise and State-wise;

(b) the names of the schemes on which the work has been stalled alongwith the reasons refer and the time since when the said work has been stalled;

(c) whether the Government has received any complaints regarding corruption and irregularities in the implementation of these schemes; and

(d) if so, the names of the schemes and the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Details of schemes sanctioned from the year 2003-04 to June, 2007, state-wise and river-wise, under National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) is given in the enclosed statement.

(b) to (d) No scheme out of the above has been stalled excepting the scheme of Interception & Diversion and Treatment of sewage at Keshoraipatan town of Rajasthan which commenced on 18.5.2005 and stalled by the contractor on 15.7.2005 due to contractual problems.

As reported by the UP Jal Nigam, the State implementing agency of Uttar Pradesh, a complaint on Sewage Treatment Plant at Salori Nala scheme of Allahabad has been received and an enquiry has been instituted in the matter.

Statement

Details of Schemes Sanctioned Statewise and Riverwise under National River Conservation Plan

Sl.No.	State	River	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08 Till June
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Godavari					
		Musi		1			
2.	Bihar	Ganga					
3.	Delhi	Yamuna				2	
4.	Goa	Mandovi					
5.	Gujarat	Sabarmati					
6.	Haryana	Yamuna				7	1
7.	Jharkhand	Subarnarekha					
		Damodar					
		Ganga					

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
8.	Karnataka	Bhadra	1				
		Tungabhadra	3				
		Cauvery	4				
		Tunga	1				
		Pennar					
9.	Kerala	Pamba	6				
10.	Madhya Pradesh	Betwa					
		Tapti	1				
		Khan					
		Narmada					
		Chambal					
		Kshipra					
11.	Maharashtra	Krishna					
		Godavari					
		Krishna	1				
12.	Nagaland	Dhipu & Dhansiri			6		
13.	Orissa	Brahamini	4	3	3	1	
		Mahanadi					
		Coastal Area					
14.	Punjab	Satluj	1	5	1		
15.	Rajasthan	Chambal					
16.	Sikkim	Rani Chu		1			
17.	Tamil Nadu	Cauvery	6	4		1	
		Adyar, Cooum		4		1	
		Vennar					
		Vaigai				2	
		Tamrabarani					
18.	Uttar Pradesh	Yamuna			1	3	
		Gomti	9				
		Ganga	4	4	2		

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
19.	Uttaranchal	Ganga	1	7	1	7	
20.	West Bengal	Damodar			2		
		Ganga	12	61	8	3	
		Mahananda			1		
Grand Total			54	90	25	27	1

*(English)***Health Projects under Indo-Germany Cooperation**

3055. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Federal Republic of Germany provides financial and technical assistance for Health, Family Planning, HIV/ AIDS projects undertaken by the Indian Government;

(b) if so, the details of the projects undertaken with mutual cooperation during 2006-07 and 2007-08, State-wise;

(c) the details of the terms and conditions of such assistance; and

(d) the details of the targets fixed for such projects and the achievement made so far under such projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a), (b) and (d) Yes, Sir. The details are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) The Indo-German Development Cooperation for the health includes Financial Cooperation (FC) managed by KfW and Technical Cooperation(TC) managed by German Technical Corporation (GTZ), a wholly owned company of Government of Federal Republic of Germany. The funds under the FC component are provided as a combination of grant assistance as well as soft loan whereas the TC component is funded out of 100% grant assistance.

Statement

Project	Centre/States	Activities
1	2	3

(I) Financial Assistance

1. Social Marketing Programme Phase II	Madhya Pradesh, Chhattishgarh, Rajasthan, West Bengal, Himachal Pradesh	Contributing to the reduction of total fertility rate ensuring free individual choice for contraceptives, reduction of increase of rate of HIV/AIDS infections, and improvement of reproductive health (reduction of Infant, child and maternal mortality) among lower income groups in rural and urban areas. Introduction of injectables in West Bengal as a pilot phase in selected districts.
2. Pulse Polio Immunisation Programme	National Level	Providing funds to halt the spread of the Wild Polio Virus by immunizing all children up to the age of five years, thus achieving eradication of polio from India and world wide.

1	2	3
		Contributing to the Government of India's Programme along with the World Bank, DFID, UNICEF, WHO, JBIC, DANIDA.
3. Basic Health Programme	Maharashtra	Contributing to Quantitative and Qualitative improvement of the provision of basic health care services in project areas (4 districts) by renovating and constructing basic health centres and village health stations, supply of medical equipments as well as social marketing & social franchising of contraceptives.
4. Basic Health Programme	West Bengal	Contributing to Quantitative and Qualitative improvement of the provision of basic health care services in project areas (4 districts) by renovating and constructing basic health centres and village health stations and supply of medical equipments and basic medicines. Introduction of PPP in four areas: Emergency Transport(Ambulances), Fair priced pharmacy shops, Outsourcing of PHCs, and Outsourcing of diagnostic services.
5. Upgradation of Secondary level Health Care facilities Phase I & II	Karnataka	Supporting the provision of improved health services in Gulbarga Division by the renovation and extension of Secondary health care facilities, introduction of compatible tariff system and construction of waste disposal facilities.
(II) Technical Assistance		
1. Indo-German Development cooperation/Basic Health Programme	Himachal Pradesh	Financial and technical assistance for the development and implementation of hospital standers, health management information systems, public-private partnerships.
2. Indo-German Development cooperation/Basic Health Programme	Maharashtra	Financial and technical assistance for the development and implementation of pilot on Social Health Insurance (SHI) schemes, State Health Policy, Continuous Medical Education (CME) programme for health personnel, telemedicine and schemes for promoting public-private partnership in health sector.
3. Indo-German cooperation/Basic Health Programme	West Bengal	Financial and technical assistance for the development and implementation of essential services package and standard treatment protocols, hospital standards social health insurance and hospital waste management systems etc.
4. Indo-German Development cooperation	National Level	Financial and technical assistance for planning and dissemination workshops and development of draft papers on various technical and policy aspects

1	2	3
		of the National Rural Health Mission and RCH programme such as social health insurance and quality assurance standards etc. pre-appraisal of the National AIDS Control Programme-III launched in July 2007 and developing technical assistance plan for strengthening Country Coordination Mechanism (CCM) for the Global Fund for AIDS, Malaria and TB.

Collection of Data Through Modern Techniques

3056. SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO:
SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA:
PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:
SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK:

Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken any action for collection of statistical data by using modern techniques;

(b) if so, the details thereof for the last three years and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the efforts made by the Government to establish the credibility of the said data; and

(d) the success achieved by the Government as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI G.K. VASAN): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Statistics & Programme implementation at present collects data with the help of printed schedules canvassed in the selected household/ enterprises located in sampled villages or urban frame survey blocks, which are selected on the basis of survey specific scientific sampling design. However, certain efforts were made in the past by the Field Operations Division of the National Sample Survey Organisation of the Ministry, to explore the feasibility of using simputers. Due to some problems reported in preliminary trial on their use, another effort to study the feasibility of using Mobilis Computer is being explored.

(c) and (d) India has a decentralized statistical system and different Ministries, Departments and other agencies

of both Central and State Governments compile statistics as per requirement either from administrative records or through censuses and sample surveys. These statistics are subject to sampling and/or non-sampling errors. Statistical techniques and other measures to control such errors are applied at the time of data collection and processing the data. However, the improvement in the statistical system is a continuous process.

[English]

Risk Factors among Urban Population

3057. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has conducted any study to find out the various risk factors which contribute towards the ill health of the people living in urban areas as compared to that of the rural areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the various steps taken by the Government to check these risk factors among the urban populace?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) Yes Sir, Indian Council of Medical Research has conducted the comparative study.

(b) Details of the report is given in the enclosed statement.

(c) The ongoing disease control programmes which inter-alia seek to mitigate the risk factors among the urban populace through advocacy & prevention components, include:

— National Cancer Control Programme

- National Mental Health Programme
- Reproductive and Child Health Programme
- Universal Immunization Programme
- Revised National Tuberculosis Control Programme
- National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme
- National Leprosy Eradication Programme
- National Programme for Control of Blindness
- National Aids Control Programme
- Drug De-addiction Programme
- Pilot Phase for National Programme for Prevention and Control of Diabetes, Cardiovascular Diseases and Stroke.

Efforts have also included the enactment of the "Cigarettes and other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisements and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 2003" to curb the consumption of tobacco.

The Act, 2003 bans smoking in public places, bans all forms of advertisements, mandates depiction of special health warnings on all tobacco products. Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has also launched the National Tobacco Control Programme (NTCP) in a few states for effective implementation of the Act, 2003.

Statement

The Indian Council of Medical Research carried out a six centers study, representing six geographic regions of the country entitled "Development of Sentinel Health Monitoring Centers for surveillance of risk factors of Non-communicable Diseases in India". The six centres were Comprehensive Rural Health Services Project, Ballabgarh (Haryana), Madras Diabetic Research Foundation, Chennai, ICMR's Regional Medical Research Center, Dibrugarh, Government Medical College, Nagpur, Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology, Trivandrum and Institute for Health and Behavioural and Allied Sciences, Delhi. Major risk factors studied were tobacco use, alcohol use, physical activity and dietary behaviour. The questionnaire took into account types of alcoholic beverages, dietary practices and other locally relevant factors. Other factors studied were blood pressure, pulse rate, waist and obesity. The data was collected in urban, rural areas and slum populations (Dibrugarh covered Peri-urban area).

Number of persons with risk factors for major Non-Communicable diseases

Risk Factors	Urban			Rural			Semi-urban/Slum		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Number of Persons Studied	7556	7665	15221	6668	6849	13517	7580	8070	15650
Smoking	2268 (300.2)	71 (9.3)	2339 (153.7)	2055 (308.2)	323 (47.2)	2378 (175.9)	3034 (400.3)	267 (33.1)	3301 (211.0)
Smokeless tobacco	1750 (231.6)	660 (86.1)	2410 (158.3)	2592 (388.7)	1451 (211.9)	4046 (299.3)	3074 (405.5)	1794 (222.4)	4868 (311.1)
Alcohol intake	3028 (400.7)	258 (33.7)	3386 (222.5)	3268 (490.1)	570 (83.2)	3838 (283.9)	4148 (547.2)	1103 (136.7)	5251 (335.6)
Consumption of not more than one serving of either fruit or vegetable or both	540 (71.5)	738 (96.3)	1278 (84.0)	1063 (159.4)	1415 (206.6)	2478 (183.3)	862 (113.7)	1008 (124.9)	1870 (119.5)
Physical inactivity (Not more than 150 minutes per week)	4804 (635.8)	4648 (606.4)	9452 (621.0)	2455 (368.2)	2604 (380.2)	5059 (374.3)	3914 (516.4)	3515 (435.7)	7429 (474.8)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Blood Pressure levels above normal (Normal: 120-129; 8-84)	2090 (276.6)	2344 (305.8)	4434 (291.3)	2159 (323.8)	451 (65.8)	2610 (193.1)	2700 (356.2)	2209 (273.8)	4909 (313.7)
Body Mass Index above normal (>25 Kg/m ²)	2304 (304.9)	2926 (381.7)	5230 (343.6)	618 (92.7)	950 (138.7)	1568 (116.0)	1262 (166.5)	2075 (257.2)	3337 (213.3)
Waist circumference above normal (Normal Men = 90 cms, Normal Women = 80 Cms)	2333 (308.8)	4352 (567.8)	6685 (439.2)	811 (121.6)	1974 (288.2)	2785 (206.0)	1367 (180.3)	3215 (398.5)	4582 (292.8)

Figures in parenthesis indicate number per 1000

Source: ICMR-who Survey of NCD Risk Factors (2003-2005)

The ICMR is carrying out two studies on various aspects of mental health problems in urban areas. The task force study on "Urban mental health problems and service needs" is being carried out in three major cities in northern and southern India i.e.; Chennai, Delhi and Lucknow. The study has highlighted the human resource deficit for management of mental illnesses, problems related to stress, alcohol and adolescent; children. It was found that the distribution and availability of services was not uniform or evenly distributed in Chennai and Delhi, but seem more so in Lucknow. There was, deficit for psychiatrists in the three cities. In Lucknow, Government and the private, sector almost equally share the service load. In Chennai and Delhi, the Government Sector carries approximately two third of the service load. Government sector in the Primary Care Level, General Health Services carries a relatively small proportion of service load, in Chennai and Delhi. The non-formal sector at the primary care level carries a sizeable proportion of the service load, in Chennai and Delhi. One third to one half of the patients reaching the treatment centres do so for Common Mental Disorders (CMD). The Common Mental Health Problems are depression, anxiety, stress, and alcohol & drug abuse. The major barriers to access are financial and transport related problems.

Four-laning of NH-28 and 28A

3058. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of progress of construction work of four-laning of NH-28 and NH-28A; and

(b) the reasons for delay in the said construction work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) Four laning of NH-28 under NHDP Phase-II from Lucknow (where it starts in Uttar Pradesh) to Muzaffarpur (in Bihar) is presently in progress. Works in the stretch from Lucknow to U.P./Bihar Border (excluding Gorakhpur Bypass) is targeted for completion by December, 2008 and Gorakhpur Bypass is targeted for completion by December, 2009. Works in stretch from U.P./Bihar Border to Muzaffarpur is targeted for completion by March, 2009. Progress of the construction work was slow in the beginning due to delay in clearance from State Government regarding cutting and removal of trees from the existing/proposed right of way required for 4-laning. Stretch of NH-28 from Muzaffarpur to end of point of NH-28 near Barauni has not been identified for 4-laning.

Piprakothi-Motihari-Raxaul section of NH-28A in Bihar is included for 4-laning under NHDP Phase-III. Bids have been received for consultancy services for preparation of feasibility cum preliminary design report for 4-laning of this reach under design, build, finance and operate pattern. The target date of award of consultancy services for this reach is November, 2007. The time given for completion of consultancy services for preparation of feasibility cum preliminary design report is 9 months as per request for proposal.

*[Translation]***Harmful effects of Soft Drinks**

3059. SHRI ANANT GUDHE:

SHRI SRICHAND KRIPLANI:

SHRIMATI KALPNA RAMESH NARHIRE:

SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain contents including acetic acid contained in Cold/Soft drinks are harmful for health;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has conducted any review of the guidelines regulating contents of Cold/ Soft drinks;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof;

(e) whether all the Cold/ Soft drink producers including the Pepsi-Cola India are stringently following these guidelines;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the remedial action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) The standards of carbonated water have been prescribed in the PFA Rules, 1955. Carbonated water manufactured conforming to the standards as laid down under PFA Rules, 1955 are considered safe and the standards are reviewed from time to time.

(e) to (g) The standards of carbonated water laid down under PFA Rules, 1955 are mandatory. The PFA Act, 1954 and the Rules made there under are implemented by the State/UT Governments who draw regular samples of various food products and take appropriate action under PFA Rules, 1955, if the samples are found not conforming to the standards under PFA Rules, 1955.

Loss of Forest Property due to Fire

3060. SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE:

SHRIMATI BHAVANA PUNDALIKRAO GAWALI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large hectare of forest area of Tadoba Tiger Project under Western Chanda Region of Forest Development Corporation, Maharashtra has been destroyed due to fire;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the estimated loss as a result thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to prevent recurrence of such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY):

(a) to (c) Information in this regard is being collected from State and would be laid on the table of the House.

*[English]***Sewage Treatment Plant at Devprayag**

3061. SHRI VIJAY BAHUGUNA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Uttarakhand has sent any proposal to the Union Government for setting up of a sewage treatment plant at Devprayag for Environment Clearance;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken by the Union Government on the proposal; and

(d) the time by which the clearance is likely to be accorded?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (d) A proposal for setting up of Sewage Treatment Plant at Devprayag for abatement of Pollution of River Ganga under the ongoing Ganga Action Plan Phase-II at an estimated cost of Rs. 366.42 lakhs was submitted by the Government of Uttarakhand on 28.3.2007. The proposal was examined by the Central Government and returned to the State Government on 30.4.2007 with

preliminary observations. The Government of Uttarakhand has been requested to prepare the revised project proposal as per prescribed guidelines.

Pravasi Bhartiya Diwas

3062. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether inspite of holding Pravasi Bharatiya Diwas every year and taking steps to attract NRIs, they have not participated in the India's development projects in the manner expected;

(b) if so, the main reasons therefor;

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard;

(d) whether the Government proposes to hold mini Pravasi Bharatiya Diwas every year; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) to (c) Pravasi Bharatiya Divas is held annually to provide a platform for the large overseas Indian community from across the world to interact with India and thereby strengthen their bonds with the country of their origin. The PBD also seeks to engage the Indian diaspora in India's development process. Engaging the diaspora is a long term process, the results of which are expected to be seen in due course. However, the PBD has contributed in increased interest of the diaspora in participating in India's socio-economic development.

(d) and (e) The Ministry is organizing the first overseas Pravasi Bharatiya Diwas in New York on September 23, 2007 with the theme "Engaging the diaspora : The way forward". This is being held as part of the 'India @ 60' celebrations being organized by the Government of India in partnership with the CII from 23-27 September, 2007 in New York. The focus of PBD-NY will be promotion of overseas Indian investments into India.

Decline in Cases of Blindness

3063. SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the incidence of blindness has decline in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of persons who regained eyesight after treatment;

(d) whether in certain States, the incidence of blindness has gone up during said period;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per the survey 2001-04 conducted under the National Programme for Control of Blindness (NPCB), the prevalence of blindness has come down to 1.1% as compared to 1.49% during 1986-89.

(c) Around 2,24,94,133 cataract operations were performed in the country under NPCB during the 10th Five Year Plan (2002-2007) period to regain eyesight.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) and (f) Question does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Four-laning of National Highways in Rajasthan

3064. SHRI SRICHAND KRIPLANI:
SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of proposals pertaining to four-laning of National Highways submitted by the State Government of Rajasthan for approval of the Union Government during the last three years;

(b) the action taken by the Union Government thereon;

(c) the number of proposals which are pending with the Union Government for approval; and

(d) the time by which these proposals are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) The following proposals for four-laning of National Highways (NHs) in Rajasthan have been submitted by the Government of Rajasthan to Government of India:

Sl.No.	NH No	NH Sections
1.	8	Kishangarh-Ajmer-Beawar-Udaipur
2.	11	Jaipur-Reengus-Sikar
3.	12	Jaipur-Tonk-Kota-Jhalawar-Madhya Pradesh Border
4.	14	Beawar-Pali-Sirohi-Pindwara

(b) to (d) Four-laning of Jaipur-Reengus-Sikar section of NH-11, Jaipur-Tonk-Kota-Jhalawar section of NH-12 is included in National Highway Development Project (NHDP) Phase- IIIA and four-laning of Kishangarh-Ajmer-Beawar section of NH-8, Beawar-Pali-Sirohi-Pindwara section of NH-14 is included in NHDP Phase-III B. Consultancy work for preparation of feasibility study/Detailed Project Report (DPR) of these sections is in progress or awarded recently. Four laning of Beawar-Udaipur section of NH-8 is not included in any Phase of NHDP but it is proposed to carry out feasibility study on DBFO pattern for the same. It is premature to indicate target for four laning of these stretches since project reports are yet to be completed. Jhalawar -Madhya Pradesh Border section of NH-12, does not qualify for four-laning.

[English]

Indians Died/Missing In Oman

3065. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:
SHRI HARIBHAU RATHOD:
SHRI PANNIAN RAVINDRAN:
SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA:

Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that several Indians died/went missing in different countries including those died/missed in Oman due to recent cyclone in Oman;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years, country-wise and year-wise;

(c) the reason for the deaths/missing;

(d) whether the deceased have been identified;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether compensation has been paid to the families of the deceased;

(g) if so, the details thereof;

(h) if not, the steps taken by the Government to pay compensation; and

(i) measures taken to locate the missing persons?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) to (i) The information is being obtained and will be placed on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Demand and Availability of Iodised Salt

3066. SHRI MAHAVIR BHAGORA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of demand and availability of iodised salt used to remove iodine deficiency among the people in the country, State-wise;

(b) the standard prescribed for iodine content in the iodised salt;

(c) whether the tests of iodine content in the salt available in the market are carried out regularly and if so, the percentage of iodine content found in the iodised salt

(d) whether the Government proposes to provide iodised salt free of cost to the people living below poverty line;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) The requirement of iodated salt for direct human consumption in all states and UTs is about 50

lakh MT per annum while the production of iodated salt in 2006-07 was 52 lakh MT.

(b) As per standards laid down under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act/Rules 1954, the iodine content in iodated salt should not be less than 30 PPM (part per million) at the manufacturing level and not less than 15 PPM at the retail level.

(c) Under NIDDCP, there is one IDD monitoring laboratory in every state/UTs Health Directorate for testing the iodine content of salt and urinary iodine excretion. Besides this, there are 72 public health laboratories for monitoring the iodine content of salt under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act/Rules. As per National Family Health Survey NFHS II-1998-99, about 49% population of the country is consuming adequately iodated salt.

(d) to (f) There is no such proposal.

Setting up of new Art Centres

3067. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposed to set up new ART centers for the prevention of AIDS;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the places where ART centers are proposed to be set-up;

(d) whether those ART centers which were opened in the year 2006 have achieved their fixed targets; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. 46 new ART Centres are being set up during the year 2007-08, as per details given in the enclosed statement.

(d) and (e) 65 ART Centres were opened in the year 2006 (April 2006 to March 2007) under National AIDS Control Programme. There are no fixed targets for no. of patients to be treated at each ART centre. PLHA are assessed for their eligibility for ART on clinical grounds and CD4 counts. All eligible patients are enrolled for ART.

Statement

Proposed ART centres to be setup during 2007-08

S.No.	State	Name of centre
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh (7)	District Headquarter Hospital Adilabad
2.		District Headquarter Hospital Kurnool
3.		District Headquarter Hospital Medak
4.		District Headquarter Hospital Mehboobnagar
5.		District Headquarter Hospital Nalgonda
6.		District Headquarter Hospital Nellore
7.		District Headquarter Hospital Vizianagaram
8.	Karnataka (8)	District Hospital Chikmagalur
9.		District Hospital Karwar
10.		District Hospital Udupi
11.		District Hospital Bidar

1	2	3
12.		District Hospital Tumkur
13.		District Hospital Haveri
14.		District Hospital Shimoga
15.		Victoria Hospital Bangalore
16.		District Hospital Thane
17.		District Hospital Nashik
18.		District Hospital Ahmednagar
19.		District Hospital Chandrapur
20.	Maharashtra (9)	District Hospital Jalgaon
21.		District Hospital Ratnagiri
22.		District Hospital Satara
23.		District Hospital Wardha
24.		District Hospital Parbhani
25.		Tuticorin Govt Medical College & Hospital, Tuticorin
26.		Govt. District Headquarter Hospital Cudallore
27.		Govt. District Headquarter Hospital Thiruvallur
28.	Tamil Nadu (7)	Govt. District Headquarter Hospital Perambalur
29.		Govt. District Headquarter Hospital Thiruvannamalai
30.		Govt. District Headquarter Hospital Krishnagiri
31.		Govt. District Headquarter Hospital Dindugal
32.	Manipur (1)	District Hospital Chandel
33.		Burdwan Medical College, Burdwan
34.	West Bengal (2)	Midnapur Medical College, Midnapur
35.		Baba Raghav Das Medical College, Gorakhpur
36.	Uttar Pradesh (3)	Motilal Nehru Medical College, Allahabad
37.		JN Medical College, Aligarh
38.	Bihar (2)	Dharbhanga Medical College, Laheriasarai, Darbhanga
39.		JLN Medical College, Bhagalpur
40.		S.P. Medical College, Bikaner
41.	Rajasthan (2)	R.N.T. Medical College, Udaipur

1	2	3
42.	Madhya Pradesh (1)	Gandhi Medical College, Bhopal
43.	Gujarat (1)	Pt. Din Dayal Upadhyay Medical College, Rajkot
44.	Orissa (2)	VSS Medical College, Burla
45.		SCB Medical College, Cuttack
46.	Assam (1)	Silchar Medical College, Silchar.

[English]

Artificial Blood

3068. SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE pleased to state:

(a) whether the scientists in Britain have created artificial blood made up of plastic molecules which works as a substitute and is easier to store;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether biological testing of the artificial blood has been completed; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per the information provided by Indian Council of Medical Research, New Delhi, scientists in Department of Chemistry, University of Sheffield (Britain) have developed polymer which can bind to oxygen. This finding has been published by Dr. Lance Twyman and his colleagues in the journal Chemical Communications and Supramolecular Chemistry, 2006, who are now attempting to use this polymer to create artificial blood.

(c) and (d) No Sir. Since the product is not yet completely developed hence it is not yet completely developed hence it is not available for biological testing.

National Service Volunteers Scheme

3069. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Service Volunteers (NSV) Scheme is being implemented by the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the budgetary allocation provided for the scheme during the year 2007-08;

(d) the details of the amount spent till date during the current financial years scheme-wise and State-wise, specially in Maharashtra;

(e) whether any review of the scheme has been done to see whether it has been able to fulfil the objectives for which it was launched;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(h) the number of Volunteers at present alongwith the work assigned to them during their deployment?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ, MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) The scheme of National Service Volunteers (NSV) is being implemented through the Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan and the National Service Scheme. The objective of the scheme is to provide opportunities to students, those who have completed their graduation to involve themselves, in nation-building activities on a voluntary basis for a specific period of time on a whole-time basis. Each volunteer enrolled under the scheme, is paid a stipend of Rs. 1000 per month.

(c) The budget provision for the scheme for the year 2007-08 is Rs. 15.00 Crores.

(d) The state-wise details of the amount spent till date including Maharashtra under the scheme of National Service Volunteers during the current financial year is given in the enclosed statement.

(e) to (g) Yes, Sir. The last evaluation of this scheme was done by the Centre for Media Studies in 1996. Inter-alia, the evaluation showed that the scheme enables volunteers to understand social issues and make them feel socially responsible. In view of the passage of more than a decade, Government is considering a further independent evaluation.

(h) At present, there are 5000 Volunteers with the Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYKS) and 300 Volunteers with the National Service Scheme (NSS).

The volunteers attached with NYKS help the District Youth Coordinator in forming new youth clubs and in keeping the existing Youth Clubs/Mahila Mandals active, responsive and progressive. Further, they also assist Youth Clubs in preparing their annual action plan and also in applying for grants-in-aid under various schemes of the Government.

The volunteers attached with NSS are entrusted with the task of organizing awareness programmes related to different social issues in the campus as well as in the adopted village/community and helping the NSS unit in the organization of NSS Special Camp & Regular Activities.

Statement

The State-wise details of the amount spent till date during the current financial year

S.No.	Name of the States/UTs	Amount spent till date during 2007-08 (In Rs)
1	2	3
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1,80,900
2.	Andhra Pradesh	20,10,355
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	2,17,700
4.	Assam	17,13,400
5.	Bihar	29,61,400
6.	Chandigarh	53,600

1	2	3
7.	Chhattisgarh	6,30,369
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	67,000
9.	Daman & Diu	53,600
10.	Delhi	87,100
11.	Goa	73,700
12.	Gujarat	13,03,099
13.	Haryana	7,37,000
14.	Himachal Pradesh	5,50,000
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	8,17,400
16.	Jharkhand	10,73,300
17.	Karnataka	11,58,521
18.	Kerala	9,96,104
19.	Lakshadweep	40,200
20.	Madhya Pradesh	26,11,600
21.	Maharashtra	20,72,300
22.	Manipur	3,95,200
23.	Meghalaya	2,21,100
24.	Mizoram	1,33,900
25.	Nagaland	3,38,300
26.	Orissa	15,57,000
27.	Pondicherry	1,24,664
28.	Punjab	7,89,510
29.	Rajasthan	15,39,600
30.	Sikkim	2,61,300
31.	Tamil Nadu	21,70,165
32.	Tripura	2,59,500
33.	Uttar Pradesh	43,47,289
34.	Uttaranchal	7,41,600
35.	West Bengal	18,85,942

Acquisition of Ships/Vessels by SCI

3070. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH:
SHRI MITRASEN YADAV:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be please to state:

(a) whether Shipping Corporation of India (SCI) proposes to acquire additional ships/vessels during 2007-08;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the estimated expenditure likely to be incurred on each of the ships/vessels;

(d) the time by which new ships/vessels will be acquired by SCI;

(e) whether tender for acquiring ships were invited in the recent past; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (f) Shipping Corporation of India (SCI) has a plan to order of 31 vessels during 2007-08 with an estimated expenditure of Rs. 1280.71 crore as per details given below:

Name of the Project	No. of vessels	Estimated Expenditure during 2007-08 (Rs. in crore)
Handymax Bulk Carriers	6	181.56
Off-shore Supply Vessel	5	66.75
Capesize Bulk Carriers	2	124.60
Suezmax tankers	2	138.84
Afframax tankers	4	234.96
Large Range-II Product tankers	2	121.04
Container Vessels	2	124.60
Panamax Bulk Carriers	4	128.16
Chemical Carriers	4	160.20

SCI has so far placed orders for the construction of 6 vessels in the current financial year. The vessels will be delivered from September, 2010 to April, 2011. The SCI has also placed orders for the construction of 12 vessels during 2005-06 which will be delivered from October 2008 to July, 2010.

The SCI has already floated global tenders for the acquisition of 16 vessels. Out of this, the tender for acquisition of 6 vessels has been finalized. The tender for the remaining vessels would be floated during the current financial year (2007-08).

[Translation]

Scheme for Population Stabilisation

3071. SHRI SUBHASH SURESHCHANDRA DESHMUKH:
PROF. PREM KUMAR DHUMAL:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has formulated any scheme for population stabilization in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether funds have been allocated by the World Bank for implementation of such schemes; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Population stabilization is one of the objectives of National Rural Health Mission (NRHM). The approach of Government is to provide quality health services in remote rural areas along with a wide range of contraceptive choices to meet the unmet demands for reproductive health services which includes delivery, safe abortions, treatment of reproductive tract infections and Family Planning Services. The NRHM also includes the

second phase of Reproductive and Child Health Programme (RCH-II), which intends to improve the performance of family welfare programme by reducing total fertility rate, maternal and infant morbidity and mortality. RCH-II aims at providing need based, client centered, demand driven, high quality services to the beneficiaries with a view to enhancing the quality of reproductive life of the population enabling the country to achieve the goals and objective envisaged in National Population Policy 2000.

(c) and (d) In support of the implementation of RCH-II, World Bank has approved financial aid of about 360 million US Dollars.

[English]

Allocation of Funds for Panchayati Raj

3072. SHRI PRABODH PANDA: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) the total allocation of funds for Panchayati Raj Institutions in the Tenth Finance Commission;

(b) whether all the State Governments have utilized cent-per-cent of the funds allocated;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the names of the States which have utilized less than 80% of the total allocated funds;

(e) whether the Union Government proposes to take any steps against these States; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ, MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) The Tenth Finance Commission recommended Rs. 4380.93 crores for Panchayati Raj Institutions for the period 1996-2000.

(b and (c) No, Sir. The allocated grants could not be released to all the States owing to a number of reasons such as panchayat elections not having been held, Utilization Certificates of released grants not been furnished and grants not having been transferred to local bodies.

(d) Bihar utilized less than 80% of the grants released. Utilization has not been reported by Arunachal Pradesh, Goa, Jammu & Kashmir, Meghalaya and Nagaland.

(e) and (f) No, Sir. No such Guidelines were issued by the Ministry of Finance in connection with the implementation of the recommendations of the Tenth Finance Commission (1996-2000).

Industrial and Environmental Pollution

3073. SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:
SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has formulated or proposes to formulate any scheme to provide assistance to the State Governments to check industrial and environmental pollution;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the assistance provided and funds utilized by various States for this purpose during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Environment & Forests provides funds to the States and Union Territories (UTs) under the Schemes of Assistance for Abatement of Pollution for strengthening of Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) and Pollution Control Committees (PCCs), Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETPs) for setting up CETPs, Creation of Management Structure for Hazardous Waste for setting up common hazardous wastes treatment, storage and disposal facilities, demonstration projects for Municipal Solid Waste, etc. The details of funds provided under these scheme for last three years are given in the enclosed statement-I.

The details of funds released to various research institutions, universities, SPCBs and PCCs by the Central Pollution Control Board under the National Ambient Air and Water quality monitoring programme are given in the enclosed statement-II.

The detailing of funds made available to various States and UTs under the National River Conservation Programme for Abatement of water Pollution in rivers and the amount utilized are indicted in the enclosed statement-III

The funds to various agencies are released after receipts of utilization certificates for previous releases.

Statement

A. State-wise and Year-wise Funds released under the Scheme 'Assistance for Abatement of Pollution during the last three financial years

(Rupees in Lakhs)

S.No.	SPCB/PCC	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	4.44	00.00	01.72
2.	Andhra Pradesh	4.60	00.00	00.00
3.	Assam	00.00	112.00	109.00
4.	Biher	00.00	00.0	00.00
5.	Chattisgarh	00.00	100.00	15.00
6.	Chandigarh	00.00	11.91	13.04
7.	Delhi	41.35	36.22	28.30
8.	Gujarat	20.00	00.00	00.00
9.	Goa	18.92	30.00	103.26
10.	Himachal Pradesh	20.00	00.00	00.00
11.	Jharkhand	94.26	00.00	00.00
12.	Kerala	1.125	00.00	55.25
13.	Lakshadweep	2.26	3.95	03.68
14.	Madhya Pradesh	00.00	00.00	75.00
15.	Meghalaya	2.50	12.00	26.72
16.	Mizoram	7.31	37.13	11.94
17.	Nagaland	15.96	1.96	09.46
18.	Orissa	30.00	00.00	00.00
19.	Punjab	0.00	00.00	16.00
20.	Rajasthan	0.00	00.00	00.00
21.	Sikkim	6.925	1.50	04.91
22.	Tripura	32.02	33.70	65.18
23.	Uttar Pradesh	12.32	00.00	00.00
24.	Uttanchal	30.50	6.50	00.00
25.	West Bengal	18.00	00.00	00.00
	Total	387.01	390.08	538.46

B. Funds released for Promotion of the Common Effluent Treatment Plants to cover 25% of the project cost as central subsidy

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No	SPCB/PCC	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
1.	Gujarat	0.00	23.00	211.97
2.	Maharashtra	392.00	410.00	223.03
3.	Punjab	3.00	0.00	00.00
	Total	395.00	433.00	435.00

C. Assistance released under the Scheme 'Creation of Infrastructure for Management of Hazardous Substances to States' during last three financial years

(Rs. in Lakh)

S.No	SPCB/PCC	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	00.00	0.00	0.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	00.00	4.50	2.00
3.	Andhra Pradesh	00.00	00.00	40.00
4.	Assam	2.00	00.00	0.00
5.	Bihar	13.00	12.00	4.92
6.	Chandigarh	00.00	2.00	0.00
7.	Chattisgarh	00.00	00.00	0.00
8.	Delhi	12.80	00.00	0.00
9.	Goa	5.13	00.00	0.00
10.	Gujarat	161.07	00.00	112.50
11.	Haryana	00.00	00.00	0.00
12.	Himachal Pradesh	9.00	00.00	0.00
13.	Jammu-Kashmir	00.00	00.00	0.00
14.	Jharkhand	8.50	8.50	0.00
15.	Karnataka	00.00	00.00	66.85
16.	Kerala	00.00	00.00	83.00
17.	Lakshadweep	00.00	00.00	0.00
18.	Madhya Pradesh	7.50	00.00	0.00
19.	Maharashtra	00.00	30.87	25.29

1	2	3	4	5
20.	Manipur	00.00	00.00	5.13,500
21.	Meghalaya	00.00	00.00	0.00
22.	Mizoram	00.00	13.05	0.00
23.	Nagaland	00.00	00.00	0.00
24.	Orissa	00.00	00.00	0.00
25.	Pondicherry	00.00	3.90	3.90
26.	Sikkim	00.00	00.00	0.00
27.	Tripura	00.00	00.00	0.00
28.	Uttanchal	7.47	6.42	0.00
29.	West Bengal	7.35	00.00	23.00

Statement

A. Details of fund released (in Rs.) to SPCBs/PCCs towards National Water Quality Monitoring Programme (NWMP) during last three years

State/UT	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	523472	496359	663793
Assam	275310	162240	661360
Bihar	109471	251282	281859
Chattisgarh	—	—	539275
Goa	154230	—	447080
Gujarat	435947	—	918260
Haryana	27412	—	186225
Himachal Pradesh	302870	484630	585495
Jharkhand	—	—	34500
Karnataka	457654	403797	628010
Kerala	467618	507959	601997
Madhya Pradesh	380030	380030	1112750
Maharashtra	536050	625937	822753
Manipur	78720	—	241730
Meghalaya	125420	129345	98615
Mizoram	—	—	63500

1	2	3	4
Nagaland	21450		113200
Orissa	517267	385040	329648
Punjab	208905		470894
Rajasthan	32396	165669	282181
Sikkim	212760	212760	215640
Tamil Nadu	444386		642698
Tripura	79445		151260
Uttar Pradesh	704494	210631	1152281
Uttaranchal	24240	145245	37240
West Bengal	687312	25012	489083
Chandigarh	—	—	57220
Lakshadweep	4200	—	10940
Pondicherry	—	—	150945
Total	6811059	4585936	11988432

*B. Details of Payment Released to Various Monitoring Agencies under National
Air Quality Monitoring Programme (NAMP)*

(Amount in Rs.)

S.No.	Name of Monitoring Agency	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh SPCB	779167	927917	573750
2.	Assam SPCB	304583		368334
3.	Bihar SPCB		2598000	394305
4.	Chandigarh PCC	417917		1615000
5.	Chattisgarh ECB	1056111	658750	871250
6.	Gujarat SPCB	1062500	1381250	4324583
7.	Goa SPCB	226667		1190000
8.	Jharkhand SPCB	736667		1728333
9.	Jammu-Kashmir SPCB			1376000
10.	Haryana SPCB	262083		
11.	Himachal Pradesh SEP & PCB	1642167	2147666	2295000

1	2	3	4	5
12.	Karnataka SPCB	432083	935000	3105000
13.	Kerala SPCB	750833	1281667	1097917
14.	Maharashtra SPCB	141667		1133333
	KTHM Nashik		255000	
	TMC Thane		127500	
	University of Pune, Pune		255000	
	VNIT Nagpur (Formerly VRCE)		215985	
	WIT Solapur		170000	
15.	Meghalaya SPCB	297500		524167
16.	Manipur SPCB			225000
17.	Madhya Pradesh SPCB	2125556	3319861	510000
18.	Mizoram SPCB			
19.	Nagaland SPCB			1586590
20.	Orissa SPCB	602084	545416	1211250
21.	Punjab SPCB		1416667	250000
22.	Pondicherry PCC	552500		255000
23.	Rajasthan SPCB	991667	2099167	2871250
24.	Tamil Nadu SPCB	828750	1175833	1112084
25.	Tripura SPCB			345000
26.	Uttar Pradesh SPCB	1237222		4016250
27.	Uttaranchal EP&PCB		115694	288065
28.	West Bengal SPCB	276250	1112083	
29.	NEERI	2960860		5986171
Total		17684834	21338456	39253622

Statement III*Statewise Expenditure (Funds Released) & Funds Utilised under National River Conservation Plan (NRCP)*

(Rs. In lakhs)

Sl.No.	Plan/State	2004-05		2005-06		2006-07	
		Funds Released	Exptd. by State #	Funds Released	Exptd. by State #	Funds Released	Exptd. by State #
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1600.00	93.06	5200.00	7659.75	4785.00	4152.03
2.	Bihar	0.00	9.01	33.72	0.00	7.19	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
3.	Jharkhand	0.00	3.13	0.00	3.18	0.00	0.00
4.	Gujarat	1200.00	1092.62	0.00	521.97	0.00	0.00
5.	Goa	510.00	905.24	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6.	Karnataka	1368.00	1062.94	580.00	1191.30	0.00	295.80
7.	Maharashtra	880.00	1324.18	1069.77	840.93	1009.00	1298.42
8.	Madhya Pradesh	1200.00	664.18	200.00	561.28	415.00	240.17
9.	Orissa	675.00	780.90	825.00	1038.54	1104.00	1447.96
10.	Punjab	1141.00	3853.32	1274.00	2662.94	1535.00	3272.13
11.	Rajasthan	26.00	0.00	18.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
12.	Tamilnadu	16861.00	16419.57	10307.40	23807.11	8271.77	2874.33
13.	Delhi	190.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	2650.00	0.00
14.	Haryana	240.00	240.84	424.00	0.00	777.20	0.00
15.	Uttar Pradesh	100.00	1414.87	1678.00	2791.25	3865.00	5369.23
16.	Uttanchal	200.00	297.07	450.00	157.68	825.00	171.9T1
17.	West Bengal	2746.00	1641.53	4848.00	3351.81	1800.00	1728.60
18.	Kerala	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
19.	Sikkim	179.00	3.50	0.00	3.76	504.50	805.23
20.	Nagaland	0.00	0.00	450.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Grand Total (River)		29116.00	29805.96	27557.89	44591.50	27548.66	21655.81

Expenditure by States given above includes the balance of GOI's share carried over from the unspent balance by State Government for previous years. This figure also includes expenditure from State Governments' Share.

Missing Elephants

3074. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) The number of elephants found missing during the past three years in the country;

(b) the exact cause of missing of such elephants; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to check the declining population of elephants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY):
(a) to (c) Countrywide estimation of elephant population in wild are done on a five year cycle. The last estimation

was done in the year 2002. Estimation exercise for 2007 census is under way and is likely to be completed by December, 2007. The comparative estimated population of wild elephants in the country in past census are as follow:

Year	Estimated Population
1980	15627
1985	18975
1989	20862
1993	25604
1997	25877
2002	26413

It is evident from the above that wild population of elephants in the country has not declined. However, the Central Government has taken several steps to protect elephants which includes launching of Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Project Elephant" in the year 1991-92; creation of elephant reserves in the country; creation of wildlife crime bureau, ban on ivory trade etc. As per reports received from State/UT Governments from time to time, major causes of elephant deaths are natural deaths, death due to electrocution, death in train accidents, death due to poaching etc.

Separate Medical Research Department

3075. SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to constitute a separate department for Medical Research and Education;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the aims and objectives of the proposed department?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Given the complexities of current and future health challenges and opportunities provided by modern biology, no single agency is likely to address these effectively. There is an urgent need for a new Department to steer and coordinate health research activities in the country. To convert the above vision into concrete action, an exclusive Department headed by a Secretary is required only to deal with health research and ICMR will continue to be a Society under the proposed department.

(c) The aims and objectives are to deal and encourage fundamental—the 'blue Sky' research for generation and advancement of knowledge; strategic research—aimed at development of better or new tools (diagnostics, drugs, vaccines, devices etc.); clinical research—testing the new tools developed; and operational research—assessing the efficiency of the tools under field/programme condition, encourage harnessing of new knowledge of gene and gene functions, expand capacity for structural biology in the health sector, particularly making the health sector utilize fruits of the research; promote clinical research and speedy translation of research results into products.

New Gamma Radiation Facilities

3076. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up a new gamma radiation facility for providing efficient gamma radiation sterilization services to the healthcare sector in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the extent to which such facility will provide support to rural health care programme of the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) and (b) The Board of Radiation and Isotope Technology (BRIT) of the Department of Atomic Energy had set up a Gamma Irradiation Facility for sterilization of medical products in the year 1974 at Mumbai. Subsequently, two more facilities were set up with the help of the Department at Sriram Applied Research Centre, Delhi and Kidwai Memorial Institute of Oncology, Bangalore. BRIT is encouraging private entrepreneurs to set up such plants in the country and five such private plants are providing services for sterilization of medical products and processing of food products at Sonapat (Haryana), Kolkata (West Bengal), Vadodara (Gujarat), Mumbai (Maharashtra) and Bangalore (Karnataka). In addition, six plants are being constructed by private entrepreneurs—three each in Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh. The Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) has given site clearance for setting up of six more plants (one each in Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Gujarat, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu) by the private entrepreneurs.

(c) Such facilities located in various parts of the country will facilitate availability of sterile medical and safe food products for the benefit of urban and rural sector.

[Translation]

Committee for Strengthening the Panchayats

3077. SHRI HEMMAL MURMU: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Committee for strengthening the role of Panchayats under the Central Schemes has been constituted;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the Committee is likely to submit its report?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ, MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. A committee was established *vide* Cabinet Secretary's Office order No.563/9/2/2007-CA.IV dated 16.8.2007 under the co-chairmanship of Secretary, Panchayati Raj and Secretary (Coordination & Public Grievances) in the Cabinet Secretariat to review the progress in implementing the directions of the Cabinet Secretary dated 8th November, 2004 to all Union Ministries concerned to restructure Centrally Sponsored Schemes to provide for the role of Panchayats in planning and implementation in conformity with the relevant Constitutional provisions. These consultations are likely to be completed with the Ministries concerned by the end of September 2007.

[*English*]

Damage to National Highways

3078. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY:
SHRI TUKARAM GANPATRAO RENGE PATIL:
SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Highways are being damaged within a short span of time;

(b) if so, the number of National Highways damaged during the last two years;

(c) the reasons therefor and the action taken by the Government thereto;

(d) whether the Government proposes to handover National Highways to the State Governments; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (c) National Highways are not damaged within a short span of time after its development unless damaged due to natural calamities like floods,

cyclone, Tsunami, landslides, earthquake etc. Immediate restoration works are taken up on such damaged roads to keep them in traffic-worthy conditions.

(d) and (e) Constitutionally the Central Government is responsible for development and maintenance of National Highways. Therefore, National Highways can not be handed over without denotifying the same. However, the National Highways are entrusted to various executing agencies including the State Governments for development and maintenance in accordance with the provisions under the National Highways Act, 1956.

Tiger Task Force Report

3079. DR. M. JAGANNATH:
SHRI JASUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD:
SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU:
SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Tiger Task Force and the National Forest Commission have suggested that the forest cadre be strengthened to protect wildlife and the green cover which according to Forest Survey of India's report, has gone down in quality over the past decade as reported in the *Hindustan Times* dated June 18, 2007;

(b) if so, the details thereof and other suggestions made by Tiger Task Force and National Forest Commission;

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard; and

(d) the other measures taken by the Government for tiger conservation as well as for captive breeding and propagation of the endangered species?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) The Tiger Task Force and the National Forest Commission have made several recommendations for strengthening tiger and forest conservation respectively, which inter alia, include strengthening of professional expertise and providing basic facilities to forest field staff.

(c) While the urgent recommendations of the Tiger Task Force are being implemented, the report of the National Forest Commission has been examined for needful action by the Centre and States.

(d) There is no proposal for captive breeding of tigers. The steps taken by the Government for tiger conservation are given in statement enclosed.

The steps taken by the Government for tiger conservation are as below:

Legal steps

1. Amendment of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 for providing enabling provisions for constitution of the National Tiger Conservation Authority and the Tiger and Other Endangered Species Crime Control Bureau. The punishment in cases of offence within a tiger reserve has been enhanced. The Act also provides for forfeiture of any equipment, vehicle or weapon that has been used for committing any wild life offence.

Administrative steps

2. Strengthening of antipoaching activities, including special strategy for monsoon patrolling, by providing funding support to Tiger Reserve States, as proposed by them, for deployment of antipoaching squads involving ex-army personnel/home guards, apart from workforce comprising of local people, in addition to strengthening of communication/wireless facilities.
3. Constitution of the National Tiger Conservation Authority with effect from 4.09.2006, for strengthening tiger conservation by, inter alia, ensuring normative standards in tiger reserve management, preparation of reserve specific tiger conservation plan, laying down annual/audit report before Parliament, constituting State level Steering Committees under the Chairmanship of Chief Ministers and establishment of Tiger Conservation Foundation.
4. Constitution of a multidisciplinary Tiger and Other Endangered Species Crime Control Bureau (Wildlife Crime Control Bureau) with effect from 6.6.2007 comprising of officers from Police, Forest, Customs and other enforcement agencies to effectively control illegal trade in wildlife.
5. In principle approval accorded for declaring eight new Tiger Reserves.

Financial Steps

6. Financial and technical help is provided to the States under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes, viz. Project Tiger and Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries for enhancing the capacity and infrastructure of the States for providing effective protection to wild animals.

International Cooperation

7. India has a Memorandum of Understanding with Nepal on controlling trans-boundary illegal trade in wildlife and conservation, apart from a protocol on tiger conservation with China.
8. A Global Tiger Forum of Tiger Range Countries has been created for addressing international issues related to tiger conservation.
9. During the 14th meeting of the Conference of Parties to CITES, which was held from 3rd to 15th June, 2007 at The Hague, India introduced a resolution along with China, Nepal and the Russian Federation, which contains directions to Parties with operations breeding tigers on a commercial scale, for restricting such captive populations to a level supportive only to conserving wild tigers. The resolution was adopted with minor amendments. Further, India made an intervention appealing to China to phase out tiger farming, and eliminate stockpiles of Asian big cats body parts and derivatives. The importance of continuing the ban on trade of body parts of tigers was emphasized.

[Translation]

Surprise Check In Hospitals

3080. SHRI TUKARAM GANPATRAO RENGE PATIL:
SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any surprise checks have been conducted by the Government in any of the hospitals in Delhi;

(b) if so, the dates on which such surprise checks have been carried out;

(c) the irregularities detected during the above surprise checks;

(d) the number and names of the officers found guilty for such irregularities; and

(e) the details of the action taken against such officers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (e) While officers from the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare and the Directorate General of Health Services do visit the three Central Government Hospitals in Delhi, namely, Dr. R.M.L. Hospital, Safdarjung Hospital and LHMC & its associated hospitals, for sorting out various administrative issues from time to time, no surprise checks have been conducted in recent time.

Healthcare Facility to Senior Citizens

3081. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken any decision to provide better healthcare facilities to senior citizens;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has constituted a high level committee in this regard;

(d) if so, the details of recommendations made by the said Committee;

(e) whether any action has been taken by the Government on the recommendations made by the said Committee; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (f) Yes Sir. Senior citizens are at present provided health care facilities as part of the general health care delivery system at various levels of health care. It is proposed to launch a National Programme for health care of the elderly during 11th Five Year Plan.

[English]

Inspection of Ships

3082. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the inspection of ships over 15 years old has been undertaken;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of ships inspected till date and guidelines in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) Instructions have been issued on 10th July, 2007 to Mercantile Marine Department and Indian Register of Shipping to carry out inspection of Offshore Supply Vessels (OSVs) of more than 15 years old. As per existing instructions, other ships like oil tankers above 15 years old are required to undergo "Condition Assessment Scheme" (CAS), according to which the structural condition of the vessel is examined by the maritime administration. Similarly, bulk carriers are subjected to enhanced survey requirements, i.e. detailed survey procedures. Further, the surveyors of Mercantile Marine Departments (MMDs) under the Directorate General of Shipping carry out flag state inspection of all Indian flag ships at least once in a year when they are in Indian ports. This is over and above, the annual survey and inspection carried out by the respective classification societies who have been delegated powers by the Directorate General of Shipping. In addition, all vessels are subjected to Safety Management Audit twice in five years. Deficiencies recorded during the inspection are rectified before the vessel proceeds to sea. The above inspections are carried out in accordance with the provision of Merchant Shipping Act, 1958 and the rules framed thereunder, International Maritime Organization (IMO) Conventions and Protocols ratified by India and various Notices/Circulars/Guidelines issued by the Directorate General of Shipping, Mumbai from time to time.

After the issue of instructions of 10th July, 2007, so far thirteen OSVs have been inspected.

[Translation]

Proposal for Four-laning of NH

3083. SHRI GANESH SINGH:
SHRI KAILASH JOSHI:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received any proposal from the State Government of Madhya Pradesh regarding four-laning of the National Highways passing through the State under "Bharat Jodo Pariyojana";

(b) if so, the date of such proposals including the names of such National Highways;

(c) whether these proposals have been approved by the Union Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the time by which these proposals are likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) Madhya Pradesh PWD proposed in May 2004, the following stretches for four laning/two laning under Bharat Jodo Pariyojana.

Sl.No.	NH No.	Stretches proposed	Proposal for widening
1.	3	Indore-Khalghat-Sendhwa and upto Maharashtra Border	4-laning
2.	12	Bhopal-Jabalpur	4-laning
3.	27	Al lahabad-Mangawa	4-laning
4.	86 Ext	Sehore-Dewas	4-laning
5.	75	Jhansi-Dhasan Border to Chhatarpur-Panna-Bela	2-laning

(c) to (e) Indore to Maharashtra Border section of NH-3, Bhopal-Jabalpur section of NH-12 and Jhansi-Khajuraho section (which is part of proposed Jhansi-Bela section of NH-75) have been approved for four laning under NHDP Phase-III. Allahabad-Mangawa section of NH-27 and remaining stretches of Jhansi-Bela section of NH-75 have not been approved for inclusion in NHDP Phase-III on account of low traffic and keeping in view of inter-se priority. Bhopal-Sehore-Dewas section of NH-86 Extn. has been denotified and is presently not a National Highway.

[English]

De-recognition of Medical Courses

3084. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE pleased to state:

(a) whether Medical Council of India (MCI) has de-recognized several undergraduate and postgraduate courses in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) the impact on the students pursuing such courses;

(d) the details of the reaction of the Government thereto;

(e) whether Medical Council of India as cancelled 3000 seats in several medical colleges;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) the reaction of the Government thereto;

(h) whether the Government proposes to issue directions to restore the seats in colleges; and

(i) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (i) Medical Council of India (MCI) is competent to recommend to the Central Government to initiate action against the medical colleges for withdrawal of recognition under Section 19 of the Indian Medical Council Act, 1956 on the grounds of severe deficiencies affecting quality of medical education. The Central Government, being the final authority to de-recognize any undergraduate and postgraduate course being run in the country, takes appropriate decision on the MCI recommendations in the matter after consulting medical institutions, University and the State Government

concerned. In the interest of ensuring quality of medical education, MCI conducts periodic inspection of medical institutions and advises the concerned medical institutions not to proceed with further admissions until the Central Government takes a final decision on its proposal for de-recognition.

In the recent past, MCI recommended to the Central Government for de-recognition of MBBS courses in 16 medical institutions due to deficiencies in terms of teaching faculty, infrastructure, clinical material and equipments etc. were found at the time of inspection. Out of these, 12 are government medical colleges and 4 are private medical colleges. As regards Post Graduate (PG) courses, MCI advised nine (9) medical colleges (5 are in government sector and 4 in private sector) not to proceed with admissions in various recognized PG courses as the Council recommended to the Central Government for their de-recognition. This Ministry is examining these recommendations of MCI and will take necessary action in due course as per the procedures stipulated in IMC Act.

S.No.	Name of the Company	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
1.	Eastern Coalfields Limited	1	1	—
2.	Bharat Coking Coal Ltd.	—	2	—
3.	Central Coalfields Limited	3	2	—
4.	Western Coalfields Limited	18	10	—
5.	South Eastern Coalfields Ltd.	25	10	—
6	Northern Coalfields Limited	5	—	—
7	Mahanadi Coalfields Limited	12	8	2
Total		64	33	2

For all captive coal block operators, the respective mine plan have been approved covering mine closure plan.

(c) Mine closure plan mainly aims at land reclamation, restoration of the mined out areas and making the mined out area safe against inadvertent entry. As the mine progresses CIL is continuously monitoring and taking all the necessary measures to implement the mine closure plans.

Mine Closure Plan

3085. SHRI JUAL ORAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has a proposal to prepare Mine (coal) closure plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof, Company-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by the CIL to implement such plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) Preparation of mine closure plans by the mine operators is mandatory under Mineral Concession Rules, 1960. Project reports and Environment Management Plans (EMPs) are being prepared with a chapter on mine closure plan in each report.

(b) Company-wise EMPs of CIL prepared with mine closure plan are as below:

Failure of Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme

3086. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:
SHIR KULDEEP BISHNOI:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any plan to transform its integrated Diseases Surveillance Programme into an 'Early Warning System';

(b) if so, the details thereof and progress made in this regard so far; and

(c) the measures taken by the Government to restructure such programme and make it accountable for any failure in the event of any outbreak of epidemics?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) Integrated Disease Surveillance Project (IDSP) has been launched in November 2004 by Government of India with the objective to strengthen surveillance activities in order to promote early detection of outbreak and to initiate appropriate action for prevention and control of diseases. The Government has decided that IDSP should incorporate early warning system as part of disease surveillance under National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme (NVBDCP) and National Rural Health Mission (NRHM).

Ministry has initiated the process to establish and manage Information Technology network connecting all States, District headquarters and Government Medical Colleges as well. National Informatics Centre (NIC) has been establishing dual connectivity (satellite and broadband) to cover 35 State headquarters, 600 district headquarters and other Medical Colleges & Infectious disease hospitals—132 sites have been established. NIC has also been asked to develop a centralized Call Centre to receive outbreak alerts. Baseline survey of laboratories in all districts covered under Phase-I and II of the programme has been carried out for their strengthening. Rapid Response Teams have also been identified & trained in these districts. These activities have been envisaged to help the State Governments to rapidly detect and response to outbreak of epidemic prone diseases.

IDSP States are still in various stages of establishing their surveillance systems and the data inflow is at initial stage. IDSP, when fully implemented is expected to detect, early warning signals of impending outbreaks and assist in timely and effective response. The Central Surveillance Unit presently receives weekly disease surveillance reports from 75% of districts covered under Phase I & II. Under the project, the data is analyzed at all three-District, State and Centre levels, whereas, District Surveillance Unit initiates action. State and Central Surveillance units also monitor the actions whenever rising trends are detected.

[Translation]

Construction Work on NH-16

3087. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the pace of construction work on the National Highway-16 is very slow;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the effective steps taken by the Government for completion of the construction work of the said highway?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) National Highway No. 16 (Nizamabad-Jagdalpur road) aggregating to a length of 505 km passes through States of Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra and Chhattisgarh. Out of this, 288 km has been entrusted by the Ministry to Border Roads Organisation (BRO) for development. The pace of construction work has been badly hampered in the naxalite affected stretches of this National Highway with BRO in the State of Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra and Chhattisgarh.

(c) BRO is executing the works with the help of local security provided by the State Governments particularly under the policy of "Area Dominance" implemented by the State of Chhattisgarh.

[English]

Health Card System

3088. SHRI K.C. PALLANI SHAMY:
SHRI SUNIL KHAN:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to introduce Health Card System to every citizen including students in all the schools to ensure proper health care in the county; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Condition of Indian High Commissions Abroad

3089. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian High Commissions abroad, particularly in Birmingham (UK) lack minimum facilities, thereby causing discomfort to the Indians and the foreigners who intend to visit India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has taken any steps to improve the conditions of the Indian High Commissions abroad;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED): (a) and (b) While improvements are being envisaged, as required, in the Consular and Visa wings of some Indian Missions and Posts abroad, the Consulate General in Birmingham is situated in a commercial area of the city near the City Centre which is well connected by public transport. The visitors' hall has adequate amenities such as toilet and washing facilities, water, soft drinks, tea, coffee etc. besides a photocopying machine and a photo-machine.

(c) to (e) The Government have been taking steps to improve conditions in the Consular and Visa Wings of Indian Missions/Posts abroad. Recently, 220 new posts were created to improve the functioning of the Consular and Visa Wings of the Indian Missions/Posts abroad. With a view to avoiding crowding at these wings of the Missions with large number of passports & visa services, outsourcing of passport & visa applications collection has been launched in select Indian Missions/Posts. The Ministry is also working with the Ministry of Finance to ensure that funds required for improvements in Consular & Visa Wings, where required, are made available to the concerned Indian Missions/Posts abroad.

Construction of Elevated Highways in Tamil Nadu

3090. SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Tamil Nadu has sent any proposal to the Union Government for construction of Elevated Highways in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon;

(c) the time by which the Highways are likely to be constructed;

(d) whether similar proposals have been received from other State Governments also; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) A request from Chief Minister, Tamil Nadu was received to take up the project of Elevated Expressway to mitigate traffic congestion problem for traffic bound to Chennai Port.

(b) to (c) The proposal of elevated highway from Maduravoyal on NH 4 to Chennai Port (length 18.3 km) is at feasibility study stage. It is premature to mention the time for construction of this highway.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Complaints Against Sports Federations

3091. SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received complaints against several sports associations/National Sports Federations regarding misuse of Government funds during last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government against them?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ, MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (c) While Government do receive complaints about the functioning of Sports Federations from sports persons, other interested parties, public representatives such as MPs and MLAs, representative for a such as the Parliamentary Forum on Youth and even the Floor of the House, and also give attention to reports appearing in the media, at present there is no specific complaint under investigation relating to the misuse Government funds by Sports Associations/ Federations.

There were 884 outstanding Utilization Certificates (UCs) from National Sports Federations/IOA amounting to Rs. 25.78 crores approximately on 1st January, 2006 which have now been reduced (as on 1st September, 2007) to 214 amounting to Rs. 6.61 crores approximately. In November' 06, Ministry of Finance's permission was obtained to continue funding the National Sports Federations (NSFs) having pending UCs, till 31st December' 06 which was later extended till 31st March' 07.

Keeping in view special requirements such as the training of medal-winning prospects for the Commonwealth Games 2010, a decision was taken by the Ministry in May' 07 to continue funding the (NSFs) having no UCs pending in the post-2000 period subject to continuous efforts for settling pending UCs pertaining to the pre-2000 period.

In terms of the General Financial Rules (GFR), the CAG audits the accounts of all NSFs/IOA who receive more than Rs. 1.00 crore funding from Government in the course of any given financial year. Provision has been made under the scheme 'Assistance to National Sports Federations' to suspend or even de-recognize NSFs in the event of their being found guilty of financial irregularities. So far no NSF has been proceeded against under these provisions.

The draft Comprehensive National Sports Policy 2007 aims at ensuring that all NSFs/IOA function in an "open, democratic, equitable, transparent and accountable" manner.

[English]

World Bank Loan for Coal Sector Rehabilitation

3092. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank has sanctioned funds for Rajrappa Opencast Project of Central Coalfields Limited under the Coal Sector Rehabilitation Project Schemes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of various Heavy Earth Mining Machinery procured, so far;

(d) the extent to which World Bank loan has helped the Rajrappa Opencast Project and other projects; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) Yes, Sir. The World Bank Loan was procured by Coal India Limited of which Rajrappa Project was also one of the beneficiaries.

(b) The loan finally taken by CIL was US\$ 522.60 million (US\$ 261.30 each from IBRD and JBIC Bank) although the initial amount approved was US\$ 530 million. The IBRD loan was obtained on a floating interest rate (six month LIBOR) which has varied from 1.46% to 7.09 %. The JBIC loan was also on floating interest basis and the interest rate has varied from 1.05% to 2.79%.

The conditions of the loan also stipulated that the purchases against the loans were to be made as per guidelines of the World Bank as contained in their Standard Bidding Document for the Procurement of goods.

The loans were sanctioned on consolidated basis to Coal India Limited and was used for development/ maintenance of twenty three Open Cast projects situated in its different subsidiary companies. No loan was sanctioned on project specific basis.

(c) The details are given in the enclosed statement-I.

(d) and (e) The Loan was taken to increase/ maintain production. The equipments were ordered in 1998-99. The year-wise production figures from 1998-99 to 2006-07 are given in the enclosed statement-II. The consolidated production for the Projects covered under the World Bank Project Loan has increased from 96.30 MT to 162.81 MT.

As regards Rajrappa, the Production has actually gone down from 230 MT in 1998-99 to 0.73 MT. This is mainly because of problems related to acquisition of land and Resettlement and Rehabilitation (R & R) problem.

Statement
List of equipment ordered against World Bank Loan (CSRP)

S. No.	Equipment	Quantity
1	2	3
1.	Walking Dragline	3
2.	Elec. Rope Shovel 10 M3	22
3.	Hydraulic Excavator 20.8/4.5 M3	14
4.	Hydraulic Excavator 4.3/6 M3	8
5.	Rear dumpers 50 T	216
6.	Rear Dumper 85 T	63
7.	Rear Dumper 120 T	160
8.	Crawler Dozer 242 KW	48

1	2	3
9.	Crawler bozer 310 KW	97
10.	Crawler Dozer 634 KW	5
11.	Wheeled Dozer 336 KW	35
12.	Drill 160 mm	31
13.	Drill 250 mm	34
14.	Drill 311 mm	5
15.	Front End Loader 3.7 M3	3
16.	Motor Grader 210 KW	26
17.	Crane Wheel Mounted 30 T	2
18.	Crane heel Mounted 70	3
19.	Tyre Handler	2
20.	Water Sprinkler 28 KL	13

Statement
Production in World Bank Projects

(Million tonnes)

	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Central Coalfield Ltd									
K.D.Haslong	2.30	2.95	3.50	3.38	3.62	3.40	3.57	3.77	3.01
Parej East	0.54	0.89	1.38	1.40	1.66	1.52	1.66	1.62	1.31
Rajrappa	2.30	2.31	1.71	1.48	1.35	1.40	1.51	0.72	0.73
South Eastern Coalfields Ltd									
Dhanpuri	1.03	1.19	1.18	1.19	0.75	0.73	0.69	0.84	0.90
Dipka	6.99	8.22	9.11	11.96	12.68	13.66	15.39	17.94	19.08
Kusmunda	5.19	5.22	5.61	5.97	6.68	7.60	7.60	8.09	9.07
Manikpur	1.42	1.54	1.85	2.37	2.27	2.34	2.50	2.61	2.95
Gevra	17.29	18.02	18.89	18.97	19.54	21.89	26.16	26.48	27.22
Western Coalfields Ltd									
Umrer	2.50	2.50	2.65	3.40	2.91	2.31	2.63	2.58	2.87
Sasti	1.20	1.42	1.41	1.29	1.41	1.42	1.41	1.5.1	1.46
Padampur	1.27	1.27	1.33	1.34	1.36	1.26	1.47	2.35	2.36
Nijai	2.00	1.89	2.18	2.20	2.19	2.37	2.58	2.78	2.91
Durgapur	1.30	1.74	1.80	2.00	2.02	2.02	1.88	1.48	2.14

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Northern Eastern Coalfields									
Jayant	8.59	9.15	9.30	9.12	9.01	9.66	10.00	9.90	10.57
Nighai	4.13	4.50	5.40	6.06	7.59	9.50	10.40	11.05	11.10
Dudhichua	4.77	5.23	7.92	8.50	9.25	9.36	10.20	10.41	10.89
Bina	5.50	5.20	4.99	4.56	4.61	4.32	4.65	4.55	4.66
Jhingurda	3.75	4.76	4.11	4.29	4.08	3.89	4.08	4.32	4.50
Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd.									
Lakhanpur	3.00	4.15	4.48	4.71	5.91	6.77	9.19	9.92	10.16
Samleswan	3.84	3.49j	3.50	4.09	3.84	4.55	4.83	5.78	7.67
Ananta	6.69	7.03	7.63	7.00	7.82	9.47	7.41	8.66	12.26
Bharatpur	5.30	5.10	5.20	6.14	7.00	9.60	10.80	9.02	9.22
Jagannath	5.40	5.02	5.43	5.69	5.20	4.34	3.57	4.45	5.57
Total production	96.30	102.79	110.56	117.11	122.75	133.48	144.18	150.81	162.61

National Waterways

3093. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY:
SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY:
SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD:
DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total length of National Waterways in the country at present, State-wise;

(b) whether the Asian Development Bank has given any report regarding waterways of the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Union Government thereto;

(d) whether the Union Government provides assistance to the State Governments for development of infrastructure facilities for Waterways;

(e) if so, the details thereof including the funds allocated to the State Governments during 2006-07 and 2007-08 and the funds utilised therefrom, State-wise; and

(f) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government for extension, development and optimum utilisation of Waterways in the country?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) The total length of the existing three National Waterways is 2716 km as per details given below:

- (i) Allahabad to Haldia stretch (1620 kms) of the Ganga-Bhagirathi-Hooghly river system. This waterway passes through the States of U.P (502 km approx), Bihar (473 km approx), Jharkhand (16 km approx), and West Bengal (629 km approx).
- (ii) Sadiya-Dhubri stretch (891 kms) of the Brahmaputra river. The entire waterway is in the State of Assam and
- (iii) Kollam-Kottapuram stretch of the West Coast Canal along with Champakara to Udyogmandal canals (205 kms.) The entire waterway is in the State of Kerala.

(b) and (c) Details are given in the enclosed statement-I.

(d) For encouraging State Governments to develop Inland Water Transport, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) was in force till the financial year 2006-07. Under this scheme 100% grant to North-Eastern States including Sikkim and 90% grant to other State was being provided. Planning Commission has, however, discontinued this scheme from 1st April 2007 (except for the North Eastern States including Sikkim in respect of which it has been continued as Central Sector Scheme under the Ministry of Development of North-Eastern Region).

(e) No funds have been released to any State under CSS during 2007-08. Funds allocated to States upto and during 2006-07 under CSS and utilized by them as reported by respective States up to 31.07.2007 are given in the enclosed statement-II.

(f) The steps taken/being taken for extension, development and optimum utilization of waterways in the country are as under:

- (i) Formation of Inland Waterways Authority of India for development and regulation of inland waterways.
- (ii) Declaration and development of National Waterways. Three waterways have already been declared as national waterways and three more are in the process of being declared so.
- (iii) Enhanced budgetary allotment for development of National Waterways.
- (iv) Encouraging private sector in development, operation and management of IWT infrastructure.
- (v) Providing facilitative framework for increasing IWT fleet under private ownership.
- (vi) Encouraging States to develop their potential waterways through Centrally Sponsored Scheme.

Statement I

Brief Note on ADB Report

Under approved 10th plan outlay of IWAI there was a provision of Rs. 10 cr. as external assistance for IWT sector. Accordingly ADB was approached by IWAI/Ministry of Shipping through Department of Economic Affairs for financial assistance for IWT development projects. Subsequently ADB approved a technical assistance of US\$ 1.25 million and commissioned a consultant (M/s CPCS Transcom, Canada) in 2003-04 for review of earlier studies and preparation of projects for ADB funding. This study was conducted in two phases. In Phase-I the consultant identified 3 prospective projects for further detailed study in Phase-II. These are Haldia-Patna sector of National Waterway No. 1 (NW-1), Dhubri-Dibrugarh sector of National Waterway No. 2 (NW-2) and Brahmani river in Orissa. The consultant submitted Phase-II report to IWAI and ADB in November 2006 in which they mentioned that the Brahmani river system offered no project to be implemented under the initial ADB loan project. About projects of NW-1 and NW-2 the consultant listed the following five conditions that had to be met simultaneously in order to "Jump-Start" inland waterways transport:

- (i) River Navigability
- (ii) Fleet Development
- (iii) Terminal Development
- (iv) Institutional Measures
- (v) Extension of the Protocol Agreement

The report has recommended measures in three phases namely, (i) Transition period (i.e. up to signing of ADB loan agreement) (ii) Short term loan implementation period (2 years) and (iii) medium term period (next 6 years) under the above heads.

IWAI has informed ADB about receipt of this report. However, there is no further response or action by ADB on this report.

Statement-II

Central Share released to States upto 2005-06, during 2006-07 under CSS and utilized by them as reported by respective States so far

(Rs. in Lakh)

S.No.	State	Fund released		Utilisation as reported by the State.	
		Up to 2005-06	During 2006-07	Total	
1.	Assam	710.40	375.41	1085.81	771.80
2.	Andhra Pradesh	15.00	52.50	67.50	16.84
3.	Bihar	21.00	0.00	21.00	0.00
4.	Goa	21.80	37.38	59.18	51.175
5.	Himachal Pradesh	105.66	0.00	105.66	17.96
6.	Karnataka	51.03	0.00	51.03	56.70 (Includes State's share)
7.	Kerala	65.30	0.00	65.30	0.00
8.	Maharashtra	1037.81	0.00	1037.81	377.19
9.	Madhya Pradesh	170.53	42.96	213.49	36.00
10.	Manipur	0.00	178.15	178.15	0.00
11.	Nagaland	0.00	15.12	15.12	0.00
12.	Orissa	50.07	0.00	50.07	51.10 (Includes State's share)
13.	Tripura	9.32	0.00	9.32	0.00
14.	Uttar Pradesh	2.00	0.00	2.00	0.00
15.	West Bengal	1823.71	496.49	2322.20	1773.81
Total		4083.63	1200.00	5283.63	3152.575

Heart Patients in Metro Cities

3094. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Heart Patients per 1000 in different Metro cities of the country; and

(b) the efforts made or proposed to be made by the Government to reduce the prevalence of heart-disease in the Metro cities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA

LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) No specific data of heart patients Metro city-wise is available. However, according to ICMR, prevalence of Coronary Heart Disease reported in respect of urban population from Delhi and Chennai (two cities) during 1990 was 78 per 1000 population and 40 per 1000 population respectively. As per epidemiological study carried out by ICMR (1994) on Coronary Heart Disease and Hypertension in Urban and Rural population at Delhi and Vellore, the prevalence of Coronary Heart Disease was reported as 76.8 and 53.4 per 1000 population in Urban and Rural population of Delhi.

It is proposed to launch a National Programme for Prevention and Control of Diabetes, Cardiovascular

Diseases and Stroke during the XIth Five Year Plan with focus on increasing public awareness. The pilot phase of this Programme has been launched in selected districts of six States in the current year.

[*Translation*]

Poaching of Tigers

3095. SHRI ANANT GUDHE:
SHRIMATI KALPANA RAMESH NARHIRE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the tigers are being poached in reserved forest areas in different parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the number of tigers poached in the country, State-wise; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government for the conservation of reserved forest areas like Tiger Reserves?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY):

(a) and (b) The details of tiger deaths due to poaching during 1999 to 2004, as received from States, are given in the enclosed statement-I.

(c) The steps taken by the Government for tiger conservation are given in the enclosed statement-II.

Statement I

Sl. No.	State	Tiger deaths due to Poaching
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	7
2.	Assam	12
3.	Bihar	3
4.	Chhattisgarh	3
5.	Karnataka	6
6.	Kerala	1
7.	Maharashtra	28
8.	Madhya Pradesh	15
9.	Orissa	1

1	2	3
10.	Rajasthan	6
11.	Tamilnadu	3
12.	Uttaranchal	10
13.	Uttar Pradesh	28
14.	West Bengal	7
Total		130

Statement II

The steps taken by the Government to protect wild tiger from depletion are as below:

Legal steps

1. Amendment of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 for providing enabling provisions for constitution of the National Tiger Conservation Authority and the Tiger and Other Endangered Species Crime Control Bureau. The punishment in cases of offence within a tiger reserve has been enhanced. The Act also provides for forfeiture of any equipment, vehicle or weapon that has been used for committing any wild life offence.

Administrative steps

2. Strengthening of antipoaching activities, including special strategy for monsoon patrolling, by providing funding support to Tiger Reserve States, as proposed by them, for deployment of antipoaching squads involving ex-army personnel/home guards, apart from workforce comprising of local people, in addition to strengthening of communication/wireless facilities.
3. Constitution of the National Tiger Conservation Authority with effect from 4.09.2006, for strengthening tiger conservation by, inter alia, ensuring normative standards in tiger reserve management, preparation of reserve specific tiger conservation plan, laying down annual/audit report before Parliament, constituting State level Steering Committees under the Chairmanship of Chief Ministers and establishment of Tiger Conservation Foundation.

4. Constitution of a multidisciplinary Tiger and Other Endangered Species Crime Control Bureau (Wildlife Crime Control Bureau) with effect from 6.6.2007 comprising of officers from Police, Forest, Customs and other enforcement agencies to effectively control illegal trade in wildlife.
5. In principle approval accorded for declaring eight new Tiger Reserves.

Financial steps

6. Financial and technical help is provided to the States under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes, viz. Project Tiger and Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries for enhancing the capacity and infrastructure of the States for providing effective protection to wild animals.

International Cooperation

7. India has a Memorandum of Understanding with Nepal on controlling trans-boundary illegal trade in wildlife and conservation, apart from a protocol on tiger conservation with China.
8. A Global Tiger Forum of Tiger Range Countries has been created for addressing international issues related to tiger conservation.
9. During the 14th meeting of the Conference of Parties to CITES, which was held from 3rd to 15th June, 2007 at The Hague, India introduced a resolution along with China, Nepal and the Russian Federation, which contains directions to Parties with operations breeding tigers on a commercial scale, for restricting such captive populations to a level supportive only to conserving wild tigers. The resolution was adopted with minor amendments. Further, India made an intervention appealing to China to phase out tiger farming, and eliminate stockpiles of Asian big cats body parts and derivatives. The importance of continuing the ban on trade of body parts of tigers was emphasized.

Proposal for Port Development

3096. SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA:
SHRI V.K. THUMMAR:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received any proposal for development of ports from, the State Government of Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Union Government on the said proposals?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) Proposals have been received from the Government of Gujarat for the development of non-major ports viz. Magdalla port, Navlakhi port, Porbandar Port, Okha Port and Veraval Port. Non-major ports are under the jurisdiction of the respective State Governments with whom the responsibility for development of these ports vests. However, the Government of India have a proposal for development of seven minor ports, one each from the select Maritime States for promotion of coastal shipping under National Maritime Development Programme (NMDP). As only one port from each Maritime State was to be included, Magdalla Port has been included from Gujarat. This is proposed to be taken up under a new Centrally Sponsored Scheme, which is yet to be approved by the Government.

[English]

Survey for Ascertaining TB Cases

3097. SHRI RAVIPRAKASH VERMA:
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJI RAO:
SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has conducted any survey to ascertain the exact number of people who are affected by Tuberculosis every year;

(b) if so, the details and outcome thereof; and

(c) the number of new cases occurred in the country every year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. A nationwide cross-sectional survey was conducted in different zones of India to assess the prevailing epidemiological situation of TB, by estimating the Annual Risk of TB Infection (ARTI)

between January 2000 and 2003. As per the estimate, there are around 75 new smear positive TB cases per lakh population in India totaling to nearly 8 lakh new smear positive cases per year. The detail of the TB survey is given in the enclosed statement.

(c) It is estimated that there are around 168 new TB cases per lakh population per year in India totalling to nearly 1.8 million cases per year out of which 0.8 million cases are sputum positive.

Statement

National Annual Risk of TB Infection (ARTI) Survey

The study was conducted by National Tuberculosis Institute (NTI), Bangalore, along with Tuberculosis Research Centre (TRC), Chennai and other institutions in collaboration with Central TB Division, between January 2000 and 2003.

For the purpose of the survey, the country was stratified into four zones, viz north, south, east and west each having approximately equal population. A staggering

1,88,103 children between 1 to 9 years of age were investigated in 26 districts:

The zone-wise selection of districts for the survey is as under:

North Zone : Raebareli, Hardoi, Jaunpur, Gurdaspur, Kangra, Delhi.

South Zone : Dakshina Kannada, Belgaum, Mallappuram, Medak, Kanyakumari, Chingelput.

West Zone : Junagadh, Nagpur, Ratnagiri, Thane, Jhabua, Kota.

East Zone : Samstipur, Purbi Singhbhum, Papum Pare, Cuttak, Kamrup, East Sikkim, Jalpaiguri, Bardhaman.

The survey was designed to estimate the average ARTI in each of the four zones. Zone-wise distribution of the different States/Union Territories and the total estimated New Smear positive cases per lac population based on the zonal ARTI estimates is summarized below:

Zone	States/Union Territories	Estimated New Sputum Positive cases per lakh population	Annual Risk of TB Infection (ARTI)
North	Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Chandigarh, Delhi, Uttaranchal	95	1.9%
East	Assam, Bihar, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Orissa, Sikkim, Tripura, West Bengal, Andaman & Nicobar, Arunachal Pradesh, Jharkhand	65	1.3%
South	Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Pondicherry, Lakadweep	50	1%
West	Goa, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Daman and Diu, Chattisgarh	80	1.6%

The zonal ARTI estimates derived from the study were also used to estimate a national ARTI of 1.5% (estimated new smear positive cases = 75/lakh).

The above table exhibits that the ARTI is highest in the Northern Zone, followed by the Western Zone and Eastern Zone. The ARTI is lowest in the Southern Zone.

Medical Facilities for Commonwealth Games, 2010

3098. SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to provide state of the art medical facilities and emergency services for the Commonwealth Games being held in India in 2010;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ, MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The medical facilities would include setting up a polyclinic at the Garnet Village; medical arrangements at competition and training venues; upgradation of facilities at various Government Hospitals; general health and sanitation arrangements; identification of link hospitals for disaster management; establishment of a Centre for Sports Medicine; well-equipped Advance Life Support Ambulances; availability of sufficient medicines/blood of different groups; etc.

(c) Government have constituted a Committee under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare to finalize the action plan for making the best use of the medical facilities of the Central Government, the Government of NCT of Delhi and the Organizing Committee for the Games. A Commonwealth Games Cell has also been set up in the Directorate of Health Services under the Government of NCT of Delhi and various activities pertaining to medical arrangements are being periodically monitored at various levels, including at the level of Chief Secretary, GNCTD.

[Translation]

Constitution of SEIAA and SEAC

3099. SHRI SRICHAND KRIPLANI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received proposals from various States, especially Rajasthan for constitution of State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA) and State Level Expert Appraisal Committee (SEAC) for grant of Environmental clearance;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) the action taken by the Government on these proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) The proposals for constitution of State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority

(SEIAA) and State Level Expert Appraisal Committee (SEAC) have been received from Assam, Andhra Pradesh, Chandigarh, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Lakshadweep, Maharashtra, Meghalaya, Puducherry, Punjab, Rajasthan and West Bengal.

(c) The SEIAA and SEACs have been constituted for six States namely, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Meghalaya, Uttar Pradesh, and West Bengal. Proposals from Chandigarh, Jammu & Kashmir and Chhattisgarh are under process while the proposals from Assam, Goa, Himachal Pradesh, Lakshadweep, Puducherry, Punjab and Rajasthan are incomplete and clarifications have been sought.

[English]

Incidents of Snake Bite Death

3100. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:
SHRI MOHAN RAWALE:
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJI RAO:
SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has the highest incidents of snake bite deaths in the world as reported in the *Times of India* dated August 2, 2007;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Union Government is planning to initiate a National Policy on treating snake bites;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which the aforesaid National Policy will be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) As per the compiled data based on the information received from Directorates of Health Services of respective State/Union Territories, the number of deaths reported due to snake bite in the country, year wise is 1423 in 2004, 1502 in 2005 and 1114 in 2006.

(c) to (e) The treatment protocol for Snakebites is being finalized. The information regarding protocol would

be widely disseminated including to all stake holders, State Governments for effective treatment.

[Translation]

Employment on Compassionate Ground

3101. SHRI SUBHASH SURESHCHANDRA DESHMUKH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases pending for providing employment on compassionate ground to the dependents

of the deceased labourers of coal companies in the country during the last three years; and

(b) the time by which the pending cases are likely to be disposed off?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) The number of cases pending for providing employment on compassionate ground to the dependents of the deceased labourers of Coal India Limited and its subsidiaries for the last 3 years company-wise is given below:

Name of Company	As on 31.3.2005	As on 31.03.2006	As on 31.03.2007
Eastern Coalfields Limited	2069	2302	1053
Bharat Coking Coal Limited	381	817	489
Central Coalfields Limited	829	956	826
Western Coalfields Limited	174	213	155
South Eastern Coalfields Limited	126	184	27
Northern Coalfields Limited	13	22	18
Mahanadi Coalfields Limited	42	77	38
Coal India Limited (North-East Coalfield)	200	209	186
Central Mine Planning & Design Institute Limited	7	6	11
Total	3841	4786	2803

(b) The pending cases are regularly being processed for providing employment to the dependants of the deceased employees. It is a continuous process and all efforts are made to provide employment to the eligible dependants at the earliest.

[English]

Per Capita Income

3102. SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) the per capita income in the country at present;

(b) whether the existing per capita income is considered to be low from the development view point;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to increase the per capita income?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI G.K. VASAN): (a) The per capita income in the country during 2006-07 as per the Revised Estimates released on 31st May 2007, is estimated to be Rs. 29,382 at current prices.

(b) and (c) There is no norm from the development point of view to indicate whether the per capita income is low or high. However, according to the World Bank's World Development Indicators database, 2007, the per capita Gross National Income of India for the year 2006 was US \$820 per annum and India ranked 61 in a list of 209 countries. In terms of purchasing power parity,

the per capita income for India in 2006 was US \$3800 per annum and ranked 145 out of 209 countries.

(d) There are multi pronged strategies to raise growth rate of the economy and to increase the per capita income. Some of the measures taken by the government to improve the GDP include raising public investment in agriculture, infrastructure like power and roads, health and education; improving governance and enhancing the efficiency of the delivery system. The details of strategies and measures to improve the per capita income are listed in the Approach Paper to Eleventh Five Year Plan which has been placed in the Parliament Library.

Fast Reactor Fuel Reprocessing Plant

3103. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether the second phase of Fast Reactor Fuel Reprocessing Plant (FRFRP) has been taken up at Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the expenditure incurred under FRFRP research and the achievements as a result thereof; and

(d) the time by which it is likely to be commissioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The second phase of Fast Reactor Fuel Reprocessing Plant (FRFRP) will process fuel from Fast Breeder Test Reactor (FBTR) on regular basis and also process a few sub assemblies of mixed oxide fuel of 500 Mwe Prototype Fast Breeder Reactor (PFBR) to get pilot experience before actual reprocessing of PFBR fuel.

(c) A sum of Rs.1155.56 lakh has been incurred as on date. This R&D encompassed several pilot plant studies culminating in robust design of process flow sheet and equipments.

(d) The project is slated to be commissioned by the end of December 2009.

Skeletal Fluorosis

3104. SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per the WHO reports, people affected by skeletal fluorosis are exposed to multiple sources of fluoride in food and water; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Water is the major and most common source for excess intake of fluoride which can lead to fluorosis including skeletal fluorosis. The other sources can be food products, industrial emissions, fluoride containing drugs, toothpaste etc.

Parity between OCI and NRI

3105. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for parity between Overseas Citizens of Indian Origin and the Non-Resident Indians;

(b) if so, the objections, if any, received from different official and other authentic quarters; and

(c) the decision taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. A proposal to notify benefits available to Overseas Citizens of India (OCIs) is under the consideration of the Government. The matter is being discussed with various Ministries/ Departments of the Government of India.

Eco-Sensitive Areas

3106. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Eco-sensitive areas have been identified by the Government;

(b) if so, the details of the Eco-sensitive areas so identified, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government has imposed any ban on construction of houses in Eco-sensitive areas of the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) The following areas have been notified as Ecologically fragile area/Eco-sensitive Zones.

1. Mahabaleshwar-Panchgani — Maharashtra
2. Matheran — Maharashtra
3. Dahanu — Maharashtra

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

150th Anniversary of First War of Independence

3107. SHRI RAGHUVeer SINGH KOSHAL: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether funds were sanctioned to the Nehru Yuva Kendras to commemorate/celebrate the 150th Anniversary of the first war of India's struggle for Independence in 1857; and

(b) if so, the details of programmes organized materials published language-wise by the said kendras especially in Rajasthan alongwith the expenditure incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ, MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) The Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan organized various programmes at school level, village level, village cluster level, district level and also at the State level in all States, including Rajasthan. The programmes *inter alia* included seminars, debates, essay writing, prabhat pheris, cycle rallies etc. All these programs had "1857" as their theme. At the national level, the Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan participated in the inaugural function of the national celebration to commemorate the 150th year of the First War of Independence by organizing a National Youth Rally from Meerut to Delhi from 7-10 May 2007, which culminated in a major function at the Red Fort, Delhi, attended by the President, Vice President,

Prime Minister, Chairperson UPA and other high dignitaries on 11 May 2007.

Details of material published language-wise are as follows:

Sl. No.	Published & distributed Material	Languages
1.	Brochure : Sanjhi Sahadat Sanjhi Virasat	English
2.	Booklet - 1 : Jung-e-Azadi 1857	Hindi & English
3.	Booklet - 2 : Bharat Ke Pratham Swatantra Sangram Main Aam Logon ki Hissedari	Hindi & English
4.	Handbill about Jun-e-Azadi 1857	Hindi
5.	Souvenir : 1857	Hindi
6.	Book : Sanjhi Sahadat Ke Kuch Phool	Hindi, Urdu & English
7.	Posters about National Youth Rally	Hindi, English, Marathi, Gujarati, Oriya, Bangla, Assamese, Telgu, Tamil, Malayalam, Kannada, Kashmiri, Urdu, Punjabi, Manipuri

Expenditure Involved

An expenditure of Rs. 13.50 Crore (un-audited) has been incurred till date for organizing inaugural program of the 150th Anniversary of 1st War of Independence, 1857, which include Rs. 34,45,299/- towards programmes in Rajasthan.

[*English*]

Encroachment of Forest Land

3108. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:
SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been alarming increase in the cases of encroachment of forest land in the country;

(b) if so, the details of forest land encroached, State-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Allocation of Funds for Indian Space Programme

3109. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether as compared to the funds allocated during 10th Five Year Plan, more funds have been sought for Indian Space Programme during the 11th Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the allocation has been made as per the demands of the space programmes;

(d) if so, the details in this regard; and

(e) if not, whether the allocation of insufficient funds is likely to have an adverse effect on the country's space programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As compared to the allocation of Rs. 13250 crores during 10th Five Year Plan, a sum of Rs. 36750 crores has been sought during 11th Five Year Plan for the Space Programme which includes Development of Advanced Launch Vehicle Systems, Augmentation of Satellite Communications and Satellite Navigation, Earth Observations and Space Science Research.

(c) The allocations for 11th Five Year Plan have not yet been finalised.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Does not arise.

[English]

Indian Public Health Standards

3110. SHRI K.C. PALLANI SHAMY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether structural, personnel, equipment and management related criterion have been defined in the Indian Public Health Standards;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the standards have been laid down for the health sub-centres, primary health centers and district level hospitals also;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any survey has been conducted regarding facilities for their upgradation; and

(f) if so, the details thereof, State-wise, especially Rajasthan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) Yes Sir. Under the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM), in order to provide optimal level of quality health care a set of Standards have been recommended for Sub-centres, Primary Health Centres (PHCs), Community Health Centres (CHCs), Sub-divisional/ Sub-district Hospitals for the bed strength of 31-50 and 51-100 and District Hospitals for the bed strength of 101-200, 201-300 and 301-500. The Standards are a means of describing a level of quality in respect of structural, personnel, equipment and management related criteria that these institutions are expected to meet or aspire to.

(e) to (f) Yes Sir. A Facility Survey of each of the institutions is needed to be carried out for estimating the exact requirement of funds needed for upgrading them to Indian Public Health Standards (IPHS). All the States/UTs are in the process of conducting Facility Surveys of all institutions. So far, the Facility Survey Reports of 674 institutions have been received from 16 States/UTs. The State-wise details are given in the enclosed statement. As far as Government of Rajasthan is concerned, the Facility Survey Reports have not been received as yet.

Statement
Status of IPHS Facility Survey

S.No.	State	No. of CHCs for which IPHS Facility Survey Reports Received
1.	West Bengal	21
2.	Tripura	9
3.	Pondicherry	4
4.	Mizoram	9
5.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1
6.	Goa	5
7.	Chhatisgarh	126*
8.	Punjab	1
9.	Uttaranchal	30
10.	Haryana	17
11.	Manipur	16
12.	Assam	102*
13.	Kerala	116*
14.	Maharashtra	105
15.	Orissa	110
16.	Chandigarh	2**
Grand Total		674

*Included Block PHCs.

**Include on Sub District Hospitals.

Setting up of Shipyard of International Standards

3111. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received Expressions of Interest (Eoi) from many companies, both domestic and foreign, to set up shipyards of international standards on the Indian coast; and

(b) if so, the details alongwith the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) In order

to establish two international size shipyards, one each on the East Coast and the West coast, the Government of India has nominated Ennore Port Limited and Mumbai Port Trust as the nodal agencies for inviting 'Expressions of Interest (EOI)' from experienced and interested Shipyards/Firms for participation in a global competition for setting up of these Shipyards.

Accordingly, Ennore Port Limited invited expression of interest in this regard and the following nine firms have submitted their Expressions of Interest:

1. IMC Limited, Chennai
2. Essar Constructions Limited
3. Larsen and Toubro Limited, Mumbai
4. McNulty Offshore Construction Limited, U.K.
5. Goodearth Maritime Limited, Chennai
6. ABG Shipyard Limited, Mumbai
7. Apeejay Shipping Limited, Kolkata
8. STX Shipbuilding Co. Ltd., Seoul, Korea
9. Shapoorji Pallonji & Co. Ltd., Mumbai

Mumbai Port Trust has also invited Expressions of Interest from interested parties for setting up of an International Size Shipyard on the West Coast of India. The following three firms have submitted their Expressions of Interest:

1. STX Corporation, Mumbai (a reputed Korean Shipyard)
2. Bharati Shipyard Limited, Mumbai
3. Larsen and Toubro Limited, Mumbai

Action for evaluating the Expression of Interests submitted by the interested parties has been initiated.

Task Force on Centrally Sponsored Scheme

3112. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has constituted a Task Force on bringing all the Centrally Sponsored Schemes under the Panchayati Raj Institutions;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the said Task Force has submitted its report;

(d) if so, the details of the recommendations of the Task Force; and

(e) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ, MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (e) In conformity with the letter and spirit of Part IX of the Constitution, read with Article 243 ZD and the Eleventh Schedule, Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) covering the 29 subjects listed in the Eleventh Schedule of the Constitution are to be planned and implemented by Panchayati Raj Institutions functioning as "institutions of local self-government". While the guidelines in respect of some CSS provide for the centrality of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs), there are other CSS where the PRIs are yet to be assigned a central role. In order to clarify and ensure the role of the PRIs in all CSS, consultations are being held with the Central Ministries concerned by a Review Committee under the aegis of the Cabinet Secretariat, co-chaired by Secretary, Panchayati Raj and Secretary (Coordination & Public Grievances), Cabinet Secretariat.

[Translation]

Allocation of Funds directly to Panchayats

3113. SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has taken a decision to allocate the funds directly to the Gram Panchayats;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether any State has expressed resentment against this move of the Union Government;

(e) if so, the names of such States alongwith the reasons therefor; and

(f) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ, MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (c) No Sir. No decision has been taken by the Union Government to allocate funds directly to Gram Panchayats. However, one of the goals set by the Government in the National Common Minimum Programme is to ensure that funds going to the Panchayats are neither delayed nor diverted. In pursuance of this goal, a Committee in the Ministry of Panchayati Raj went into this issue in detail and submitted its report in May, 2005. In pursuance of the recommendations of this Committee, the Ministry of Panchayati Raj supports the position that financial inflows meant for Panchayats should first flow into the Consolidated Fund of State Governments, but should then be speedily transferred direct to the Panchayats "without delay or diversion". Releases of funds on the basis of recommendations of the Twelfth Finance Commission and under the BRGF Programme conform to this pattern of fund flow.

(d) to (f) Does not arise.

[English]

Obesity among Children caused by Soft Drinks

3114. SHRI RAVIPRAKASH VERMA:
SHRIMATI MANORAMA MADHAVARAJ:
SHRI MOHAN RAWALE:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the carbonated drinks contain health hazard elements which cause obesity among children as reported in *The Times of India* dated August 7, 2007;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to ban advertisement of carbonated drinks; and

(d) if so, the details thereof including the action/steps taken by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Carbonated drinks provide only calories and are deficient in vital nutrients as a result they increase the body weight leading to obesity and other diet related chronic non-communicable disorders.

(c) and (d) There is no proposal to ban advertisement of carbonated drinks. However, keeping in view the increased consumption of junk foods including carbonated drinks among school children and adolescent population, the Union Minister of Health & Family Welfare has written to Health Ministers of all States & UTs to consider issuing instructions for withdrawal of junk foods and carbonated drinks from school and college canteens. Letters have also been issued to Chief Ministers of all States & UTs to consider issuing instructions to Vice Chancellors of all Universities including Medical and Agricultural Universities of the respective States for withdrawal of junk foods and carbonated drinks from canteens of educational institutes.

Migration of Skilled Professionals from India

3115. SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL:
SHRI S. AJAYA KUMAR:

Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is negotiating with the European countries to facilitate migration of skilled professionals from India over the next few years;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the names of such countries;

(c) whether India has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the International Organisation for Migration in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which the negotiations are likely to be finalized?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a), (b) and (e) Yes sir. Government is in dialogue for signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Poland for facilitating Indian emigrants to Poland in sectors like construction, agriculture and road building. A draft MoU has been forwarded to the Polish Government for early negotiations. The first round of discussions was held during the visit of the Polish Labour Minister in June 2007 in New Delhi.

(c) and (d) Yes sir. A Memorandum of Understanding has been signed between India and International

Organisation for Migration for implementation of the "Regional Dialogue and Programme on Facilitating Managed and Legal Migration Between Asia and the European Union (EU)." The MoU is aimed at capacity building for administering managed migration between India and EU member states.

[*Translation*]

Toll-check points

3116. SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA:
SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are specific guidelines for setting up of the toll-check points;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the criteria for setting up of such toll-check points;

(c) whether toll-check points have been set-up at few places where work of National Highways is incomplete;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the total amount of toll collected at NH-8?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) As per the National Highways (Fees for the use of National Highways Section and Permanent Bridge-Public Funded Projects) Rules 1997, toll collection shall be done only at one place within a distance of 80 kms from a point at the beginning of the first National Highway Section or approach of entry of the first permanent bridge to be crossed under the jurisdiction of the same executing agency, regardless of number of projects falling within the length in order to facilitate free and unhindered movement of traffic. Where it is not feasible to do so, the number of collection point shall be kept minimum and shall be decided with the approval of Central Government.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. User fee is collected only in respect of completed stretches of National Highways.

(e) The total amount of user fee collected by the National Highways Authority of India on NH-8 during the year 2006-07 is Rs 373.94 crores.

*[English]***Generic Medicines for HIV Patients**

3117. SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken steps to supply HIV drugs at cheaper rates in the last three years;

(b) if so, whether the Government has made efforts to supply high-quality generic medicines at a more affordable rate; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Antiretroviral drugs required for treatment for HIV/AIDS are high quality generic medicines manufactured in India and are being procured through International Competitive Bidding and supplied under the Programme.

Dredging of Paradip Port

3118. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the dredging in Paradip Port to remove cargo spillage during 2005-06 and 2006-07 has been undertaken;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether dropping of cargo into the labour water by the port user and stevedore has come to the notice of the Government;

(d) if so, the port-wise details thereof;

(e) the action taken against such port users during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) Paradip Port has undertaken berth face dredging to remove cargo spillage and to maintain required draft at the berth. During the year 2005-06 and 2006-07, the following quantities of dredged spoils/cargo spillages has been recovered.

Year	Quantity Dredged	Expenses Incurred
2005-06	12,578 MT	Rs. 31,44,500
2006-07	11,551 MT	Rs. 28,87,750
Total		Rs. 60,32,250

(c) and (d) Although no specific report has been received by the Government regarding spillage of cargo into the sea by the port users and stevedores, it is observed that in the course of loading/unloading of dry bulk cargo, despite preventive measures taken by the Port and stevedores, some quantity of cargo inevitably falls into the harbour water during operation. Port-wise details of such spillage are being collected.

(e) A nominal amount of Rs. 0.30 paise per tonnes is being charged from the stevedores w.e.f. January, 2006 by the Paradip Port Trust so as to meet the expenses for berth face dredging from time to time. However, no action has been initiated against the Port users as usually no Port user would like to drop the cargo in the harbour.

ASEAN Regional Forum

3119. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has unveiled a maritime security package in the recent Manila meet of ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the decision taken by the Forum thereon?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (c) Yes. At the meeting of the 14th ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) in Manila on 2 August 2007, India offered assistance to ARF member states in building capacity to ensure the safety and security of sea-lanes passing through the region. India will design and conduct a training module on maritime security specifically for the ARF Member States, on the themes of anti-piracy, search & rescue, offshore and port security, anti-smuggling and narcotics control and anti-poaching operations.

*[Translation]***Violation of Safety Norms in Coal Mines**

3120. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Coal India Ltd. (CIL) has violated the safety norms during the blasts in Western Coal Fields Ltd. as reported in Lokmat Samachar dated July 31, 2007;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any enquiry has been conducted regarding the violation of safety norms during blasts leading to insecurity in the residential areas;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) No, Sir. Western Coalfields Ltd. (WCL) has not violated any safety norms during blasting as reported in Lokmat Samachar dated 31st July, 2007.

(b) Does not arise in view of reply given to part (a) above

(c) to (e) However, an enquiry has been conducted into the allegations as appeared in the news paper report by Safety Department of WCL and investigations revealed that the report published in the daily "Dainik Lokmat Samachar" on 31.7.2007 was incorrect.

[English]

ICMR Centres

3121. SHRI K.C. PALLANI SHAMY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of centers of Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) located in the country;

(b) whether the ICMR proposes to open more such centers in various parts of the country, particularly in Tamil Nadu;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the main functions and the locations identified for setting up of the same; and

(d) the time by which the new centers are likely to be opened?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA

LAKSHMI): (a) The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has 26 centres situated in different parts of the country; 20 of these address themselves to specific health topics (such as tuberculosis, leprosy, cholera and enteric diseases, AIDS, Malaria, vector control, nutrition, reproduction, oncology, immunohaematology, medical statistics etc.) and 6 are regional institutes.

(b) to (d) According to ICMR, the Council propose to establish field units of National Institute of Virology at Alapazha in Kerala and Gorakhpur in UP. An ICMR Centre for Excellence is also proposed to be established at Kings Institute of Preventive Medicine, Chennai.

Shankar Report on Coal Sector Reforms

3122. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Experts Committee headed by Mr. T.L. Shankar has submitted the second part of the report to the Government on coal sector reforms;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the recommendations made therein;

(c) whether the Government has accepted the recommendations of the Committee; and

(d) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to implement them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) Draft Report (Part-II) of Sankar Committee on Coal Sector Reforms was discussed in a meeting of the Committee held on 21.8.2007 at New Delhi for finalisation. The final report is expected to be available soon.

(b) to (d) Do not arise in view of reply given to part (a) above (d).

Allocation of Funds from CRF

3123. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY:

DR. K.S. MANOJ:

SHRI KAILASH BAITHA:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds allocated from Central Road Fund (CRF) under different heads during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the details of developmental works sanctioned/undertaken during the years 2006-07 and 2007-08, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government proposes to modify the norms for allocation of Central Road Funds to various States;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(e) the time by which the modified norms will be made applicable?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) State-wise details of funds allocated under Central Road Fund (CRF) for State Roads and for the Schemes of Economic Importance (EI) and Inter-State Connectivity (ISC) during the years 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 are given in the enclosed statement-I.

(b) State-wise details of development works on State roads approved under CRF and schemes of EI & ISC during the years 2006-07 and 2007-08 are given in the enclosed statement-II.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Statement I

State-wise details of Funds Allocated under the Central Road Fund and the Schemes of Economic Importance and Inter-state Connectivity during the year 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-2007

(Amount Rs. in Crore)

Sl.No.	Name of the State/UT	2004-05		2005-06		2006-07	
		CRF Allocation	Allocation under the Schemes of EI and ISC	CRF Allocation	Allocation under the Schemes of EI and ISC	CRF Allocation	Allocation under the Schemes of EI and ISC
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	74.70	7.01	131.71	14.91	131.07	5.83
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	9.25	8.91	16.22	5.21	16.26	3.87
3.	Assam	13.57	16.63	24.72	10.73	24.61	12.24
4.	Bihar	21.91	2.00	39.57	6.71	38.65	3.22
5.	Chhattisgarh	20.28	2.96	37.13	2.96	38.63	0.50
6.	Goa	4.02	0.00	7.54	0.00	7.95	0.00
7.	Gujarat	55.21	14.50	97.72	22.00	96.60	12.15
8.	Haryana	32.09	7.00	53.51	8.64	56.57	2.82
9.	Himachal Pradesh	9.75	0.00	17.23	2.00	17.24	2.09
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	27.43	0.00	48.60	1.30	49.04	0.99
11.	Jharkhand	17.44	0.00	32.09	0.00	34.03	0.50

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
12.	Karnataka	52.76	8.50	95.13	11.86	94.70	27.09
13.	Kerala	25.20	0.00	46.21	0.00	45.92	0.25
14.	Madhya Pradesh	52.01	4.48	93.29	6.55	93.69	8.83
15.	Maharashtra	91.60	2.76	158.71	9.52	156.61	5.57
16.	Manipur	3.06	0.10	5.07	0.55	5.09	1.54
17.	Meghalaya	3.96	0.30	7.57	0.51	7.73	2.46
18.	Mizoram	2.55	1.00	4.59	6.09	4.59	0.34
19.	Nagaland	2.13	2.95	3.82	3.97	3.98	3.68
20.	Orissa	27.27	4.10	48.87	8.70	50.63	17.03
21.	Punjab	37.36	0.00	63.05	5.20	63.82	5.03
22.	Rajasthan	67.87	0.50	121.16	7.28	119.80	7.31
23.	Sikkim	1.06	3.42	1.99	8.27	2.01	4.68
24.	Tamil Nadu	57.98	0.00	103.50	0.00	104.74	0.25
25.	Tripura	1.74	1.86	3.16	0.84	3.15	1.47
26.	Uttarakhand	10.13	6.17	18.25	8.93	18.46	6.87
27.	Uttar Pradesh	80.61	6.70	142.00	8.50	142.17	12.85
28.	West Bengal	32.59	0.00	56.14	0.82	54.21	7.60
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1.69	0.00	2.90	0.00	1.86	0.00
30.	Chandigarh	2.04	0.00	3.47	0.00	2.24	0.00
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.99	0.00	1.69	0.50	1.08	0.50
32.	Daman and Diu	0.70	0.00	1.22	0.00	0.77	2.40
33.	Delhi	24.98	0.00	43.84	0.00	43.84	0.00
34.	Lakshadweep	0.05	0.00	0.09	0.00	0.12	0.00
35.	Pondicherry	2.02	0.00	3.60	0.00	3.60	0.00

Statement II

State-wise detail of Proposals Approved under the Central Road Fund and Schemes of Economic Importance and Inter-state Connectivity during the year 2006-2007 and 2007-08 (As on date)

SI.No.	Name of State/ Union Territories	2006-2007		2007-2008 (As on date)	
		Nos. of proposals approved	Amount (Rs. crores)	Nos. of proposals approved	Amount (Rs. crores)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	24	63.87	0	0.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	11	42.30	0	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
3.	Assam	7	23.37	2	9.08
4.	Bihar	5	18.46	0	0.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	10	24.54	0	0.00
6.	Goa	3	10.59	0	0.00
7.	Gujarat	27	55.69	0	0.00
8.	Haryana	2	29.74	7	86.70
9.	Himachal Pradesh	2	4.25	0	0.00
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	2	52.35	0	0.00
11.	Jharkhand	8	88.97	0	0.00
12.	Karnataka	251	253.42	4	20.86
13.	Kerala	5	42.76	3	31.23
14.	Madhya Pradesh	27	103.02	11	70.31
15.	Maharashtra	65	199.74	16	64.61
16.	Manipur	2	7.02	0	0.00
17.	Meghalaya	0	0.00	0	0.00
18.	Mizoram	5	29.57	1	10.05
19.	Nagaland	0	0.00	0	0.00
20.	Orissa	14	73.98	9	40.93
21.	Punjab	6	46.89	0	0.00
22.	Rajasthan	90	176.53	0	0.00
23.	Sikkim	8	48.96	3	16.45
24.	Tamilnadu	28	77.70	14	31.55
25.	Tripura	0	0.00	1	14.62
26.	Uttarakhand	0	0.00	0	0.00
27.	Uttar Pradesh	17	183.17	1	9.55
28.	West Bengal	2	47.16	0	0.00
29.	Andman and Nicobar Islands	0	0.00	0	0.00
30.	Chandigarh	0	0.00	0	0.00
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0.00	0	0.00
32.	Delhi	26	43.67	0	0.00
33.	Pondicherry	0	0.00	0	0.00

Talks between India and Pakistan

3124. SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any talks were held between India and Pakistan on the various issues of bilateral relations including Kashmir during the last six months;

(b) if so, the details and the outcome thereof;

(c) whether any treaties and agreements were signed between the two countries;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the issues relating to confidence building measures were discussed in the recent past;

(f) if so, the details and outcome thereof;

(g) whether any specific offer has been made by some other countries in the recent past to mediate in the process negotiations between India and Pakistan; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) The Foreign Secretaries met in Islamabad on March 13-14, 2007 to initiate the fourth round of the Composite Dialogue and to review the third round. Other talks held within the framework of the Composite Dialogue during the last six months include: (i) The Defence Secretary level talks on Siachen on April 6-7, 2007 in Rawalpindi, (ii) Sir Creek talks on May 17-18, 2007 in Rawalpindi, (iii) Secretary (Culture) talks on June 28-29, 2007 in Islamabad, (iv) The Home Secretary-level talks on July 3-4, 2007 in New Delhi, (v) The Commerce Secretary talks on July 31-Aug 2, 2007 in New Delhi, (vi) The Secretary Water Resources-level talks on Tulbul Navigation Project on August 30-31, 2007 in New Delhi. The Foreign Secretaries discussed Peace & Security, including CBMs and Jammu & Kashmir. On CBMs the two sides agreed: (i) to expedite negotiations to conclude an Agreement on Prevention of Incidents at Sea, (ii) to fully observe the ceasefire on the IB, LOG and AGPL, (iii) to conclude and sign an Agreement on Modalities for the Conduct of Quarterly Flag meetings at Sectors to be agreed upon, (iv) conclude and sign a Framework Agreement on Speedy Return of Inadvertent Line Crossers, (v) to conclude an agreement on No Development of New Posts and Defence Works

along the LOC, and (vi) to propose drafts for new border control guidelines along the International Border. On the issue of Jammu and Kashmir, the two sides agreed (i) to ensure implementation of the already agreed Jammu and Kashmir related CBMs, (ii) to ensure operationalisation of Truck service, (iii) to ensure operationalisation/rationalisation of the five crossing points. To enhance People-to-People Contacts both sides agreed to conclude (i) Bilateral Visa Agreement, (ii) Agreement on Consular Access, (iii) to revise the Protocol on Visits to Religious Places, and (iv) that the Judicial Committee on Prisoners would be composed of four judges from each side to ensure humane treatment and expeditious release of prisoners on both sides. On Nuclear CBMs, the two sides decided to hold discussions on security doctrines.

(c) and (d) An Agreement on Reducing the Risk from Accidents Relating to Nuclear Weapons was signed on February 21, 2007 in New Delhi.

(e) and (f) Yes. Details as at Paragraph (b) above.

(g) All issues of mutual concern are being discussed bilaterally between India and Pakistan.

(h) Does not arise.

Survey on E-Waste

3125. SHRI AMITAVA NANDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has made a survey on e-wastes generated from the various sources in the country;

(b) if so, the total estimates of e-wastes generated in the country during the last three years, state-wise;

(c) whether the main contributor to be e-wastes has been identified;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the measures taken by the Government to control the problem of e-waste in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (d) Based on a survey conducted under the guidance of Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), it has been estimated that about 1,46,000 tonnes of such

Waste from Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) is generated annually. The major e-waste is generated in the big cities such as Delhi, Mumbai and others.

(e) The Government of India, Ministry of Environment and Forests have notified the Hazardous Waste (Management and Handling) Rules 1989 as amended in 2000 and 2003 which includes e-waste. The residues and wastes generated from the operations in electronic industry are considered as hazardous wastes and are listed at Sl. No. 31 of Schedule of these rules. Further, the export and import of e-waste is regulated under Schedule 3 of these rules, as Electrical, and Electronics Assemblies are covered in Categories A1180 and B1110. The import of wastes under this category is only permitted for direct reuse and not for recycling or final disposal.

The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has formulated "Draft Guidelines for Environmentally Sound Management of E-Waste" for the State Pollution Control Boards and Pollution Control Committees of the Union Territories and the industries for handling e-waste. These draft Guidelines are available on CPCB's website www.cpcb.nic.in for comments and suggestions. A Task Force has been constituted by the Ministry of Environment and Forests for finalization of these guidelines.

[Translation]

Funds Allocated for Transmission Line

3126. SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB PATIL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has allocated huge funds for transmission line during the Tenth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the success achieved therefrom; and

(c) the details of funds proposes to be allocated during the Eleventh Five Year Plan in this regard alongwith the target fixed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) and (b) The allocation of funds for transmission line in the power sector during the Tenth Plan period was at Rs. 57,135 crores (Rs.21,520 crores in the central sector and Rs. 35,615 crores in the state sector). The Central Sector allocation included only Rs.1150 crores Budgetary Support

and the remaining Rs. 20,370 crores were raised by Central Public Sector companies from internal resources and market borrowings. The States funded their outlays primarily from their own Plans. Based on information provided by the Central Electricity Authority, actual utilization was at Rs. 44,740 crores (Rs. 19,454 crores in the central sector and Rs. 25,286 crores). In terms of the physical capacity, 46,000 ckm of new transmission line covering 220 kV and above and corresponding 77,700 MVA/MW transformation capacity were added during the Tenth Five year Plan period.

(c) The Eleventh Five Year Plan period is yet to be finalized.

[English]

Collaboration with neighbouring countries to stop Terrorism

3127. SHRI ABU AYES MONDAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has collaborated with neighbouring countries to stop terrorism, and

(b) if so, the details and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ANAND SHARMA): (a) and (b) Yes. India has established bilateral Joint Working Groups and other mechanisms with several neighbouring countries to combat terrorism. The SAARC countries have signed a Regional Convention and an Additional Protocol on Suppression of Terrorism. The BIMSTEC countries (Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Thailand) have set up a Joint Working Group against terrorism with focus on information sharing, capacity building and inter-agency cooperation.

[Translation]

Ill-treatment of Indians Abroad

3128. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE:
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY:
SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK:

Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether cases of ill-treatment of Indians abroad have been reported with the concerned Protector of

Emigrants (PoEs) during the last three years alongwith complaints lodged against the illegal recruiting agencies;

(b) if so, details thereof and the action taken thereon;

(c) the number of persons compensated during the last three years under the Pravasi Bima Scheme;

(d) the instructions/guidelines issued to the State Government/police authorities to ban the unregistered illegal recruiting agencies;

(e) whether the people of Indian Origin living in the Gulf countries are not safe as per the report of Community welfare Department of Indian Embassy in Riyadh;

(f) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefore; and

(g) the corrective measures taken for the security of the persons of Indian Origin?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. Cases of ill-treatment of workers abroad are reported from time to time, which are received in the Ministry from the Protector of Emigrants, Indian Missions abroad and from the

emigrants also. In the cases of such emigrants recruited by the registered recruiting agents, action is taken like issuance of show cause notice, suspension/cancellation of the registration certificates. Cases regarding persons having been sent by unregistered agents are referred to state police authorities for taking necessary legal action. A Statement the number of complaints received in the Ministry against the registered as well as unregistered recruiting agents and the action taken thereon is enclosed.

(c) As per available information, upto February, 2007, 249 claims had been settled.

(d) From time to time, the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs has been writing to the Chief Ministers of various labour exporting states like Punjab, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala etc to take stringent action against unregistered illegal recruiting agents. The Chief Secretaries of the State Governments were also apprised of the situation and were requested to monitor such complaints and take up with the state police authorities for due legal action. This is a continuous process and from time to time this is reiterated.

(e) to (g) The Community Welfare Wing of the Embassy of India in Saudi Arabia has not reported that people of Indian origin living in the Kingdom are not safe.

Statement

Complaints against Registered Recruiting Agents

Year	No. of Complaints	Show Cause Notices issued	No. of Registration Certificates Suspended/cancelled	No. of complaints dropped/resolved	Cases pending which are being followed up
2005	41	41	24	17	Nil
2006	167	167	65	69	28*
2007 (so far)	76	76	1+ 5*(out of previous years' complaint)	17	58

Complaints against Unregistered Recruiting Agents

Year	No. of complaints	Prosecution Sanction issued	Cases referred to State Government/POE for action
2005	53	8	45
2006	78	21	57
2007 (so far)	33	6	27

Statement on Kashmir Issue

3129. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH "LALAN":
SHRI SURAJ SINGH:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn towards the statement of Parliamentary Secretary for Defence of Pakistan in which he has spoken about solving the Kashmir issue through Jihad; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) Government are aware of the press reports on a statement by Pakistan Parliamentary Secretary for Defence Major (Retd.) Sayed Tanvir Hussain in the National Assembly of Pakistan during a debate on Pakistan's Foreign Policy advocating jihad for the "freedom" of Kashmir. The Indian High Commission in Islamabad has protested to the Government of Pakistan at this gratuitous attack on India.

[English]

HIV Cases among old People

3130. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cases of HIV in the country particularly between the age group of 60-65 has come to notice of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) As per information available at NACO, during last three years, a total of 555 AIDS cases have been reported by State AIDS Control Societies in the age-group above 60 years of age.

(b) The state-wise details for the last 3 years are enclosed, as statement.

(c) The Government of India has launched the National AIDS Control Programme Phase III, with the goal to halt and reverse the epidemic in the country over the next 5 years by integrating programmes for prevention, care, support and treatment through a four-pronged strategy consisting of prevention of new infections among high risk groups and general population, expanding access to treatment, improving programme management and strengthening Information Management Systems. The activities for increasing awareness and preventive measures including care & support are applicable for all adults including age group 60-65 years.

Statement**Reported Number of AIDS case above 60 years age (2005-2007)**

State	2005	2006	upto June' 07	Total
1	2	3	4	5
Ahmedabad MACS	1	2	0	3
Andman and Nicobar Islands	0	0	0	0
Andhra Pradesh	19	78	38	135
Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0
Assam	0	0	0	0
Chandigarh	1	9	8	18
Chhattisgarh	0	1	1	2
Daman and Diu	0	0	0	0
Delhi	17	23	7	47

1	2	3	4	5
Goa	3	0	0	3
Gujarat	5	0	0	5
Haryana	0	0	0	0
Himachal Pradesh	0	1	0	1
Jammu-Kashmir	0	1	2	3
Jharkhand	0	0	2	2
Karnataka	0	15	5	20
Madhya Pradesh	3	4	2	9
Maharashtra	0	12	46	58
Manipur	1	0	1	2
Meghalaya	0	0	1	1
Mizoram	0	0	0	0
Mumbai MACS	38	77	60	175
Nagaland	0	0	0	0
Orissa	0	0	0	0
Pondicherry	0	0	0	0
Rajasthan	3	11	2	16
Sikkim	0	0	0	0
Tamil Nadu	33	0	0	33
Uttar Pradesh	0	0	0	0
Uttaranchal	0	1	0	1
West Bengal	11	10	0	21
Total	135	245	175	555
Total AIDS Cases Reported	25738	29166	11302	66206

Selling of Medicines

3131. SHRIMATI JHANSI LAKSHMI BOTCHA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some employees of the Central Government Health Scheme have been arrested on

charges of pilfering and selling medicines meant only for distribution through the CGHS;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken against the guilty persons; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to prevent recurrence of such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) On the basis of intelligence report gathered by the Delhi Police, North District 6.6.2007, it apprehended one person namely Shri Maya Ram, when he was found selling CGHS supply medicines in open market. In this regard an FIR 230/2007 dated 6.6.2007 under Section 420/411 IPC, Police Station, Chandni Chowk, Delhi was registered.

During the investigation a large number of medicines for CGHS supply, not for sale were recovered from the house of the accused, Shri Maya Ram. At the instance of accused Shri Maya Ram, one Shri Lal Chand was apprehended and 100 bottles of syrup, benedryal marked CGHS supply was recovered. Both accused persons were arrested.

On 8.6.2007 on the pointing of accused Shri Maya Ram, one person namely Shri Jagdish, an employee of CGHS was arrested and the bottles of medicines CGHS supply were recovered from his house.

On the pointing of accused, one store-keeper of CGHS dispensary namely Shri Balik Ram Gautam was arrested and bottles of medicines of CGHS supply were recovered from his house.

CGHS employees Shri Jagdish and Shri Gautam who were arrested by the police have put under deemed suspension from the date of arrest by the police. The then CMO in-charge, Dr. G.S.Goel, was given an opportunity to explain as to why action should not be taken against him, on the disclosure statement, of accused, Shri Balik Ram Gautam. After, examining the explanation received, Dr. Goel has been stripped of the charge of being In-charge of a dispensary.

Instructions have been issued to all Additional Directors of the Zones to intensify surprise inspections and checking of the stores and direct CMO In-charges of the dispensaries in their Zones to exercise stricter vigil to ensure that no such incidence occurs in future, failing which CMO In-charges of the dispensaries will be directly held responsible for any such report in future.

Construction of Bridges for Improving Connectivity

3132. SHRI M.K. SUBBA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal from the State Government of Assam has been received for construction of three bridges over Brahmaputra to improve connectivity in the Dholda, Jorhat Nematighat, Dhubri Phulbari region;

(b) if so, the details and estimated cost thereof; and

(c) the time by which the work on the bridges is likely to commence?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Outsourcing of Coal Production

3133. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of patches and the names of the collieries where outsourcing are in operation as on January 1, 2007 in BCCL;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years;

(c) whether the outsourcing is permitted under the law;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether BCCL has decided to go for outsourcing in Kuya colliery despite the fact that it is having huge reserve of quality coal; and

(f) if so, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) and (b) No outsourcing for coal production has been undertaken in Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL). However, contracts for hiring of Heavy Earth Moving Machinery (HEMM) for removal of overburden and transportation of coal in following 8 patches were in operation as on 1.1.2007.

Sl. No.	Name of Mine	No of Patches
1	2	3
1.	Damoda	1
2.	Jamunia	1

1	2	3
3.	Chandore	1
4.	Tetulmari	1
5.	Bagdigi	1
6.	Bararee	2
7.	Gondudih	1
Total		8

(c) and (d) BCCL has been exempted vide notification dated 30th May, 2005 issued by Ministry of Labour, Government of India for a period of five years from the date of notification in respect of deployment of contract labour in works specified in the notification

(e) and (f) In Kuya Colliery, underground and opencast mining are being done departmentally. A part of the area will be worked by hired HEMM in future to increase production.

Commercial Mining of Uranium

3134. SHRI ANWAR HUSSAIN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Uranium Corporation of India (UCIL) plan to establish a multi-crore commercial mining of uranium in West Khasi Hill District;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and district-wise;

(c) whether any action has been taken to solve the problems;

(d) whether the State Pollution Control Board (SPCB) has given clearance in this regard; and

(e) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. UCIL proposes to set up a mine and processing plant at Kylleng, Pyndengsohiong, Mawthapah in the West Khasi Hills district of Meghalaya, after obtaining all necessary statutory clearances.

(c) Yes, Sir. Action has been initiated to address all aspects related to setting up of the project including the concerns of people.

(d) Meghalaya State Pollution Control Board has submitted the proceedings of the Environmental Public Hearing held on 12.06.2007 to the Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF). Clearance is awaited.

(e) Does not arise, in view of (d) above.

Amendment in MCI Act

3135. SHRI L RAJAGOPAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to amend the MCI Act to categorise State for setting up of new Medical Colleges; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) The Government is considering a proposal to amend the regulations of Medical Council of India to provide relaxation in the conditions for opening of medical colleges in the National Rural Mission Health (NRHM) focused states including north eastern states and hilly and tribal areas of the country.

Peculiar Type of Water Plants

3136. DR. K.S. MANOJ: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that proliferation and accumulation of a peculiar type of water plant known as water hyacinth has become an environmental hazard which create obstruction of navigation in the lakes of Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any scientific method has been developed for the destruction of these plants; and

(d) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (d) Water hyacinth is an obnoxious weed

which has been proliferating and colonizing water bodies in the country, creating problems to agriculture and obstruction in navigation in general. These weeds are being controlled through biological and mechanical methods only and there is no specific scientific method developed for controlling them. There are reports of using these weeds for composting, bio-gas generation, paper manufacturing, ornamental purposes etc. which have not been found to be cost effective.

[Translation]

Delay in Filing Charge-sheets by CBI

3137. SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO:
SHRI M. ANJAN KUMAR YADAV:
SHRI V.K. THUMMAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is undue delay by the CBI in filing charge-sheets in a large number of cases where CBI had conducted raids in the last three years;

(b) if so, whether any analysis has been undertaken to identify the factors responsible for this delay; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the remedial measures proposed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI):
(a) to (c) The CBI files charge-sheet as soon as the investigation in a case is completed. However, investigation of some cases by the CBI takes time because of the complicated nature of cases requiring scrutiny of voluminous documents and examination of large number of witnesses. The CBI, however, endeavors to complete the investigation in all cases at the earliest. There is a laid down system of holding monthly and quarterly review meetings where the cases under investigation are examined by the CBI with a view to finalizing those early.

[English]

Disposal of Undelivered Passports

3138. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA:
SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Passport Manual, 2001 provides that passports that are returned undelivered should be retained only for one year after which they must be destroyed;

(b) whether large number of passports that were returned undelivered were not destroyed by Regional Passport Offices/Passport Offices and proper records were also not maintained for this category of passports; and

(c) if so, measures taken to ensure proper accounting and timely destruction of such passports to check their misuse?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED): (a) and (b) As per Passport Manual 2001, undelivered passports should be retained only for one year after which they must be destroyed if nothing further is heard from the applicant. A record is to be kept for all undelivered passports. Some undelivered passports were not destroyed by the passport offices after one year as mentioned in the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India on the Performance audit of Passport, Visa and Consular Services covering the period 2000-01 to 2004-05.

(c) Instructions have been reiterated to all passport offices to adhere strictly to the provisions of the Passport Manual 2001 in respect of undelivered passports. The Passport Offices have also been instructed to send half-yearly status report on the returned undelivered passports.

[Translation]

Funds for Vector Borne Diseases

3139. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD:
SHRI M. K. SUBBA:
DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL:
SHRI MILIND DEORA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether funds have been allocated to State Governments particularly Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand and North-Eastern States for prevention of Vector borne diseases like Chikungunya, Dengue and Malaria; and

(b) if so, the total amount of funds released and spent for this purpose during each of the last three years. State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. A statement showing the

State-wise funds released and utilized as per Utilization Certificates (UCs) and Statement of Expenditures (SOEs) received from the States for the last three years is enclosed.

Statement

National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme Releases and expenditure as per UC/SOE and balance available with the States/UTs

(Rs. in Lakhs)

S.No.	Name of the States/UTs	2004-05					2005-06					2006-07					2007-08		
		Opening balance for 2004-05	Amount Released during 2004-05	Total available	Exp. As per UC/SOE	Opening balance for 2005-06	Amount Released during 2005-06	Misc. Receipts of interest & refund/ transfer from other DMCS/ State	Total available	Exp. As per UC/SOE	Opening balance for 2006-07	Amount Released during 2006-07	Misc. Receipts of interest & refund/ transfer from other DMCS/State	Total available	Exp. As per UC/SOE	Opening balance for 2007-08	Amount Released during 2007-08	total available	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
1.	Andhra Pradesh	219.22	80.44	299.66	271.86	27.80	498.00	39.43	565.23	540.38	24.85	620.56	4.25	649.66	649.66	0.00	714.26	714.26	
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	152.00	152.00	152.00	0.00	226.03	0.00	226.03	0.00	226.03	200.76	0	426.79	332.84	93.95	153.1	247.05	
3.	Assam*	1064.48	550.00	1614.48	771.84	842.64	442.97	0.00	1285.61	49.52	1236.09	595	0	1831.09	1570.17	260.92	542	802.82	
4.	Bihar*	904.67	906.83	1811.50	160.35	1651.15	549.29	0.00	2200.44	471.16	1729.28	473.87	0	2203.15	549.50	1653.65	0	1653.65	
5.	Chhattisgarh	108.64	513.11	621.75	404.82	217.13	633.53	641.18	1491.84	1061.35	430.49	572.18	15.6	1018.27	1018.27	0.00	330.05	330.05	
6.	Goa	17.50	0.00	17.50	16.49	1.01	37.42	0.00	38.43	18.79	19.84	19.82	0	39.46	16.89	22.57	75	97.57	
7.	Gujarat	99.15	310.62	409.77	273.68	136.09	420.20	1.12	557.41	493.37	64.04	716.7	1.01	781.75	328.49	453.26	341.69	794.95	
8.	Haryana	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	44.64	0.00	44.64	29.38	15.26	4.61	0	19.87	11.64	8.23	0	8.23	
9.	Himachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	15.48	0.00	15.48	0.00	15.48	0	0	15.48	6.24	9.24	0	9.24	
10.	Jammu-Kashmir	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	15.83	0.00	15.83	0.00	15.83	4.06	0	19.89	12.77	7.12	0	7.12	
11.	Jharkhand	436.17	136.74	572.91	283.29	289.62	380.65	17.31	687.58	342.80	344.98	505.64	17.7	868.32	328.98	539.34	410.71	950.05	
12.	Karnataka	59.50	0.00	59.50	59.50	0.00	164.44	0.00	164.44	72.61	91.83	319.42	0	411.25	111.76	299.49	0	299.49	
13.	Kerala	105.00	0.00	105.00	98.03	6.97	211.96	0.00	218.93	140.67	78.26	383.44	0	461.70	15.73	445.97	403.9	849.87	
14.	Madhya Pradesh	272.72	343.54	616.26	442.28	173.98	527.31	20.22	721.51	596.27	125.24	1087.97	89.4	1302.61	910.37	392.24	356.18	748.42	
15.	Maharashtra	255.02	218.38	473.40	381.76	91.64	444.54	132.67	668.85	826.94	-158.09	1005.22	16.45	863.58	559.64	303.94	455.35	759.29	
16.	Manipur	120.78	0.00	120.78	0.00	120.78	164.61	0.00	285.39	0.00	285.39	189.19	0	474.58	72.70	401.88	0	401.88	
17.	Meghalaya	56.60	49.00	105.60	105.60	0.00	182.56	0.00	182.56	0.00	182.56	165.39	0	347.95	263.13	84.82	122.91	207.73	
18.	Mizoram	0.00	32.00	32.00	32.00	0.00	218.40	0.00	218.40	88.38	130.02	224.33	0	354.35	312.41	41.94	138.73	180.67	
19.	Nagaland	18.62	58.15	76.77	76.77	0.00	205.31	0.00	205.31	0.00	205.31	241.22	0	446.53	414.76	31.77	149.28	181.05	
20.	Orissa	398.84	550.40	949.24	667.52	281.72	678.98	0.00	960.70	856.54	104.16	953.31	0.77	1058.24	435.55	622.69	876.7	1499.39	
21.	Punjab	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	39.19	0.00	39.19	0.00	39.19	0	0	39.19	24.86	14.33	0	14.33	
22.	Rajasthan	125.85	157.65	283.50	148.86	134.64	207.84	0.00	342.48	139.61	202.87	379.76	63.99	646.62	111.61	535.01	247.5	782.51	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
23.	Sikkim	2.00	0.00	2.00	2.00	0.00	20.95	0.00	20.95	0.00	20.95	8.71	0	29.86	25.37	4.29	0	4.29
24.	Tamilnadu	168.00	0.00	168.00	156.82	11.18	284.12	0.00	286.30	82.88	212.42	421.19	0	633.61	10.85	622.96	200	622.96
25.	Tripura	23.36	105.45	128.81	128.81	0.00	201.86	0.00	201.86	80.18	121.68	192.02	0	313.70	192.82	120.88	138.97	259.85
26.	Uttar Pradesh	166.75	46.40	213.15	0.00	213.15	730.99	0.00	944.14	747.20	196.94	625.2	0	822.14	501.36	320.78	0	320.78
27.	Uttaranchal	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	32.87	0.00	32.87	0.00	32.87	0	0	32.87	12.27	20.80	0	20.80
28.	West Bengal	230.81	112.22	343.03	62.81	280.22	297.60	0.00	577.82	103.75	474.07	476.54	0	890.61	400.99	549.62	254.37	803.99
29.	Delhi	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	22.47	0.00	22.47	14.43	8.04	170.5	0	178.54	1.29	177.25	0	177.25
30.	Pondicherry	7.00	0.00	7.00	7.00	0.00	32.86	0.00	32.86	14.73	17.93	140.65	0	158.58	12.50	146.08	0	146.08
31.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	7.00	177.00	184.00	184.00	0.00	216.49	0.00	216.49	6.30	210.19	354	0	564.19	419.52	144.67	4.56	149.23
32.	Chandigarh	0.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	0.00	31.08	0.00	31.08	0.00	31.08	26	0	57.08	57.08	0.00	11.42	11.42
33.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	7.00	9.50	16.50	16.50	0.00	42.39	0.00	42.39	5.82	36.57	39.46	0	76.03	67.39	8.64	3.65	12.29
34.	Daman and Diu	7.00	9.00	16.00	16.00	0.00	24.14	0.00	24.14	5.68	18.46	19.86	0	38.32	29.18	9.15	3.46	12.60
35.	Lakshadweep	7.00	3.00	10.00	10.00	0.00	20.23	0.00	20.23	3.13	17.10	12.35	0	29.45	0.00	29.45	2.8	32.25
Total		4886.68	4634.43	9423.11	4943.39	4479.72	8267.03	851.93	13588.68	6791.67	6807.01	11148.93	209.17	18165.11	9788.39	8376.72	5636.59	14313.31

*[English]***Study on Chikungunya**

3140. SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ICMR has conducted any study on Chikungunya;

(b) if so, whether any mutant variety of either virus causing the disease or vector transmitting the disease has been found; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) According to Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), a report was received from Kerala Health Authorities in May, 2007 that thousands of people are hospitalized with fever and other symptoms. A team comprising of officials from ICMR, National Vector Borne Diseases Control Programm Division (NVBDCP), Delhi and National Institute of Communicable Diseases (NICD), Delhi conducted the survey in the affected areas.

The survey showed the seriousness of the problem because of very high aedes indices. The landing collections of the adults conducted in these areas showed the presence of *Aedes albopictus*. Results have further revealed that the prevalent strain of Chikungunya virus belongs to the Central/East African genotype lineage.

Health Facility to Poor Patients

3141. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken by innovative steps to help poor patients to get complete healthcare in Government hospitals;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any mechanism in the Government-aided hospitals to treat the poor and the needy patients free of cost; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA

LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) Health and Family Welfare services are available to all citizens of the country in Public Health facilities. These services are completely free of cost at all levels for persons who are below the Poverty line.

The Public Health services at Primary care level comprises 144988 Sub centres, 22669 Primary Health Centres and 3910 Community health Centres. For secondary care there are District hospitals and at still higher level medical college hospitals and other tertiary care institutions are available.

(b) The Government has operationalised the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) to provide accessible, affordable, accountable, effective and reliable primary health care facilities, especially, to the poor and vulnerable sections of the population. The NRHM has been operationalized throughout the country including below poverty line people, with special focus on 18 states which includes 8 Empowered Action Group States (Bihar, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Orissa and Rajasthan), 8 North-East States, Himachal Pradesh and Jammu & Kashmir.

Guidelines for Foreign Travels

3142. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has recently issued new guidelines for foreign travels by ministers and officers; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ANAND SHARMA): (a) and (b) The Ministry of External Affairs recently updated and reissued its standard guidelines relating to provision of protocol courtesies by Indian Missions/Posts abroad to visiting Indian dignitaries, delegations and officials.

The Ministry has also written to other Central and State Government departments suggesting ways to facilitate expeditious political clearance by MEA of visits abroad by official dignitaries and delegations.

Engagement of Pvt. Contractor by CIL

3143. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Coal India Ltd. has engaged private contractors for loading of coal from coal handling plants at Ukni, Neeljay and Chargaon opencast mines;

(b) if so, the details thereof, company-wise and mine-wise;

(c) whether any irregularities/problems have come to the notice of the Government in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the action taken by the Government thereon;

(e) whether the Chief Vigilance Officer of CIL has conducted any inquiry in this regard; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) to (f) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

International Day of Non-violence

3144. SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL:
SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA:
SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether efforts are being made by the Government to persuade the United Nations to declare Mahatma Gandhi's birthday on 2nd October as the International Day of Non-violence;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof;

(c) whether the move is being opposed by any quarters;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) On June 15, 2007, the United Nations General Assembly unanimously adopted a resolution on 'International Day of Non-Violence' piloted by India with the co-sponsorship of 142 countries

to annually observe and celebrate Mahatma Gandhi's birthday, October 2, as the 'International Day of Non-Violence.

(c) to (e) Do not arise.

Setting up of Mega Ports

3145. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN:
SHRI ANANTA NAYAK:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some Major Ports have earned profit during 2006-2007;

(b) if so, the port-wise details thereof;

(c) whether Government proposes to set-up Mega Ports in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which such mega ports are likely to be set-up?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) The provisional data of net surplus before tax for the Major Ports during 2006-07 is as under :

Name of the Port	(Rs. in crores)
Mormugao	40.46
Jawaharlal Nehru	569.14
Kandla	213.18
Cochin	26.66
New Mangalore	109.16
Mumbai	176.47
Visakhapatnam	187.82
Paradip	292.92
Tuticorin	113.45
Chennai	262.78
Kolkata	465.11
Ennore Port Ltd.	34.62

(c) to (e) Action has been initiated towards setting up of a deep draught port along the coastline of West Bengal. The Working Group for the Port Sector for the Eleventh Five Year Plan in its report submitted to the Planning Commission has inter-alia recommended setting up of 5 new deep draught ports during the Eleventh Plan Period.

[Translation]

Lack of Prompt Action by Indian Embassies Abroad

3146. SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in the event of accident/untimely death of Indian workers working in various countries particularly in the gulf countries, the Indian Embassies situated in those countries are not taking prompt action to send back their dead bodies to India;

(b) if so, the reasons therefore;

(c) whether the Indian Embassies get appropriate support from the local administrations of the concerned countries in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons therefore; and

(f) the efforts made by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) As per information received from the Indian Missions abroad including the Gulf countries like Kuwait, Qatar, Oman, Yemen and Saudi Arabia, the Missions take prompt action in sending dead bodies of Indian nationals after completion of all required local formalities. However, in case of

(i) Oman, the process takes a few days time to complete and in most of the cases, the dead body is sent to India within a week or ten days.

(ii) Saudi Arabia, there is delay in despatch of mortal remains of the deceased Indian nationals to India in some cases, varying from 4-6 weeks in cases of natural death and 16 weeks, or even more, if the death occurs due to unnatural reason, like road traffic accident, industrial mishap and murder.

(b) The main reasons for the delay is the time taken in completion of necessary formalities by the Saudi sponsors, non-completion of investigations, non-receipt of police and medical formalities, non-receipt of required documents from India etc.

(c) to (e) The local Governments have been cooperative and render all possible prompt assistance in completion of mandatory local formalities.

(f) The Missions in Saudi Arabia always pursue the matter with the sponsors and the concerned Saudi authorities at the highest levels for reduction of such delays by simplifying the procedures. This Ministry monitor it for faster despatch of dead bodies by keeping in touch with the Indian Missions abroad.

[English]

SHORT NOTICE QUESTION

Killing of Hindi Speaking Migrants in North Eastern States by the ULFA Militants

1. SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of Hindi speaking migrants have been killed in Assam and other North Eastern States by the ULFA militants in the past few months as reported in 'The Times of India' and 'Hindustan Times' dated August 12, 2007 and the 'Hindu' dated August 13, 2007;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government has asked for a detailed report from Assam and North Eastern State Governments;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Union Government's team has made any visit to the States where ULFA militants are killing Hindi speaking migrants;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government to protect the Hindi speaking migrants in Assam and North Eastern States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL):

(a) and (b) During the current year in Assam ULFA militants have killed 61 Hindi Speaking persons mostly labourers and petty vendors in January, 2007 and 10 persons in May, 2007. In the latest acts of violence, combined groups of United Liberation Front of Asom (ULFA) and Karbi Longri North Cachar Hills Liberation Front (KLNLFF) militants killed 28 Hindi speaking persons between 8-12 August 2007 in Karbi Anglong district. No report of such killings has been received from other North Eastern States.

(c) to (f) The Ministry has remained in close and continuous contact with the State Government and has reviewed the security situation on regular basis. The situation was also reviewed by the Union Home Secretary and by the Union Home Minister during their visits to Guwahati earlier this year. After the latest incident, a high level official team from Ministry of Home Affairs led by Special Secretary which also included DG, CRPF and DG, BSF visited Assam on 13-14 August 2007. The team participated in the meeting of the Unified Headquarters held on 13 August, 2007. Shri Sriprakash Jaiswal, Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs also visited Guwahati on 14th August, 2007 and reviewed the security situation. He also visited Bokolia, Ainpahar in Karbi Anglong along with senior officers of the Ministry, where the incidents took place on 8th August, 2007 killing 8 Hindi speaking persons.

The State Government and security forces have intensified Counter Insurgency Operations, patrolling, cordon and search operations. In Karbi Anglong District, which witnessed violence recently, about 4000 Hindi speaking persons living in isolated and remote areas, have been shifted to safer locations.

(g) State Government of Assam has approved creation of six additional police stations and thirteen additional police outposts in the district. Additional central forces have been deployed to assist the State Government in dealing with the situation and intensify operations against militants. The existing Unified Headquarters has been strengthened and the Chief Minister, Assam now chairs its meetings. State Government has also been authorized to engage 2000 ex-servicemen to strengthen the overall security arrangement in the State.

MR. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned till 3 p.m.

11.33 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till
Fifteen of the Clock.*

15.00 hrs.

The Lok Sabha met at Fifteen of Clock.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajganj, Bihar): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, please listen to me. I have given a notice in the morning itself to suspend the Question Hour and the entire day's proceedings so that I may be heard. When I want to make a submission, the House is being adjourned....(Interruptions) This subject is being treated as it is done in a private limited company....(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please listen to me.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this issue is concerned with the country's security....(Interruptions)

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhansi, Jharkhand): Sir, please allow me to speak as well....(Interruptions) I have also given notice for the same....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Let Papers be laid now. Shri T.R. Baalu.

15.01 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the Hindustan Shipyard Limited and the Ministry of Shipping, Road Transport and Highways, for the year 2007-2008.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT—6916/2007]

- (2) A copy of the Inland Waterways Authority of India (Classification of Inland Waterways in India) Regulations, 2006 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. 3 in weekly Gazette of India dated the 20th January, 2007 under section 36 of the Inland Waterways Authority of India Act, 1985.

- (3) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT—6917/2007]

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar—Not present.

...(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Central Administrative Tribunal (Salaries and Allowances and Conditions of Service of Chairman, Vice-Chairmen and Members) Amendment Rules, 2007, (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 536(E) in Gazette of India dated the 3rd August, 2007 under sub-section (3) of section 37 of the Administrative Tribunals Act, 1985.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT—6918/2007]

...(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Homeopathy, Kolkata, for the year 2005-2006, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute of Homeopathy, Kolkata, for the year 2005-2006.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT—6919/2007]

- (3) A copy of the Syllabus and Regulations for the Diploma in General Nursing and Midwifery—Revised 2001 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. 11-1/2006-INC in weekly Gazette of India dated the 19th August, 2006 under sub-section (3) of section 16 of the Indian Nursing Council Act, 1947.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT—6920/2007]

...(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the Notification Nos. S.O. 1226(E) and S.O. 1227(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 26th July, 2007, regarding acquisition of land for building (widening, four-laning etc.), maintenance, management and operation of different stretches of National Highway No. 58 (Meerut-Muzaffarnagar section) in the State of Uttar Pradesh under section 10 of the National Highway Act, 1956.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT—6921/2007]

...(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) issued under section 3 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986:-
- (i) S.O. 679(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 27th April, 2007, making certain amendments in Notification No. S.O. 93(E) dated the 29th January, 1998.
 - (ii) S.O. 1219(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 26th July, 2007, making certain amendments in Notification No. S.O. 93(E) dated the 29th January, 1998.

- (iii) S.O. 506(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 31st March, 2007, making certain amendments in Notification No. S.O. 671(E) dated the 30th September, 1996.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT—6922/2007]

- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Pollution Control Board, Delhi, for the year 2005-2006, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Central Pollution Control Board, Delhi, for the year 2005-2006.
- (3) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT—6923/2007]

...(Interruptions)

15.04 hrs.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE FROM SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Committee on Absence of Members from the sittings of the House in their Eighth Report presented to the House on 31st August, 2007 have recommended that leave of absence from the sittings of the House be granted to the following Members for the period mentioned against each:-

- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
| 1. Sadashivrao D. Mandlik | 23.02.2007 to
13.03.2007 |
| 2. Shrimati Susmita Bauri | 23.02.2007 to
21.03.2007
and
26.04.2007 to
17.05.2007 |
| 3. Kumari Mamata Banerjee | 23.02.2007 to
21.03.2007
and
18.04.2007 to
19.05.2007 |

4. Shri Lakshman Seth 26.04.2007 to
22.05.2007
5. Shri Prakash Paranjpe 26.04.2007 to
17.05.2007
and
10.08.2007 to
14.09.2007
6. Shri Shibu Soren 28.11.2006 to
19.12.2006,

23.02.2007 to
20.03.2007
and
26.04.2007 to
06.05.2007
7. Shri Raghunath Jha 26.04.2007 to
17.05.2007
8. Shri Khagen Das 10.08.2007 to
14.09.2007
9. Shri Harish Nagpal 23.02.2007 to
20.03.2007
and
26.04.2007 to
17.05.2007
10. Shri Jasubhai D. Barad 23.02.2007 to
20.03.2007
and
26.04.2007 to
17.05.2007
11. Shri Rajesh Ranjan 27.04.2006 to
28.04.2006,

10.05.2006 to
23.05.2006,

24.07.2006 to
25.08.2006
and
22.11.2006 to
01.12.2006
12. Dr. Md. Shahabuddin 28.11.2006 to
19.12.2006,

23.02.2007 to
20.03.2007
and
26.04.2007 to
06.05.2007

Is it the pleasure of the House that leave as recommended by the Committee be granted?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Leave is granted. The Members will be informed accordingly.

...(Interruptions)

15.04¹/₂ hrs.

COMMITTEE ON SUBORDINATE LEGISLATION

Seventeenth Report

[English]

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS (Palghat): I beg to present the Seventeenth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Subordinate Legislation.

...(Interruptions)

15.04³/₄ hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON LABOUR

Twenty-third and Twenty-fourth Reports

[English]

SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY (Nalgonda): I beg to present a copy each of the following reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Labour:

- (1) Twenty-Third Report on action taken by the Government on the recommendations/ observations contained in the Twentieth Report (14th Lok Sabha) of the Standing Committee on Labour on the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Labour and Employment for the year 2007-2008.
- (2) Twenty-Fourth Report on action taken by the Government on the recommendations/ observations contained in the Twenty-First Report (14th Lok Sabha) of the Standing Committee on Labour on the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Textiles for the year 2007-2008.

15.05 hrs.

(At this stage, Shri Virendra Kumar and some other Hon'ble Members came and stood on the floor near the Table)

15.05¹/₄ hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORT, TOURISM AND CULTURE

One Hundred and Twenty-third Report

[*English*]

SHRI SAMIK LAHIRI (Diamond Harbour): Sir, I beg to lay on the table a copy of the One Hundred and Twenty-third Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture on the 'Seamen's Provident Fund (Amendment) Bill, 2007'.

...(*Interruptions*)15.05¹/₂ hrs.

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Forty-first Report

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): Sir, I beg to present the Forty-first Report of the Business Advisory Committee.

15.05³/₄ hrs.

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

- (i) Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the Twenty-seventh Report of the Standing Committee on Agriculture on Demands for Grants (2007-08), pertaining to the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture*

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND

*Laid on the Table and also placed in Library, See No. LT—6924/2007.

PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): On behalf of Shri Sharad Pawar, I beg to lay the Statement on the status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the Twenty-seventh Report of the Standing Committee on Agriculture (2007-08), in pursuance of the direction 73-A of Hon. Speaker, Lok Sabha issued vide Lok Sabha Bulletin-Part-II, dated September 01, 2004.

The Standing Committee on Agriculture examined the Demands for Grants of Department of Agriculture and Cooperation (DAC) for the year 2007-08 and presented 27th Report to Lok Sabha on 27.04.2007. The report contains 19 recommendations. The Action Taken Replies of the Government were sent to the Committee on 8th July, 2007.

The status of Action Taken regarding implementation of the recommendations of the Standing Committee on Agriculture is indicated in the statement enclosed.

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar—Not present.

15.06 hrs.

(ii) Successful launch of Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle/INSAT-4CR*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): Sir, I am happy to inform this august House that Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle, GSLV-F04 has successfully launched our latest communication satellite, INSAT-4CR, on September 2, 2007 from Satish Dhawan Space Centre at Sriharikota in Andhra Pradesh.

The 2140 kg. INSAT-4CR is the third satellite in INSAT-4 series. The INSAT-4CR satellite carrying 12 high power Ku band transponders will augment INSAT capacity for Direct-To-Home (DTH) television and other communications services.

The Master Control Facility at Hassan in Karnataka acquired signals from INSAT-4CR soon after it entered into orbit and initial checks have indicated normal health

*Laid on the Table and also placed in Library, See No. LT—6925/2007.

[Shri Prithviraj Chavan]

of the satellite. Orbit raising manoeuvres have commenced on September 3, 2007 and will continue during September 5-7, 2007 followed by deployment of appendages, three axis stabilization, payload switching 'on' and in-orbit tests. INSAT-4CR will be operationalised by the end of September 2007.

I request Members to join me in congratulating the Chairman and all members of the ISRO team and in wishing them a success.

15.06¹/₄ hrs.

ELECTION TO COMMITTEE

Court of Aligarh Muslim University

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): On behalf of Shri Arjun Singh, I beg to move:

"That in pursuance of sub-clause (xxiv) of clause 1 and clause 2 of Statute 14 of the Statutes of Aligarh Muslim University, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, six members from among themselves to serve as members of the Court of the Aligarh Muslim University, subject to other provisions of the Statutes. The members so elected shall not be the employees of the University."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That in pursuance of sub-clause (xxiv) of clause 1 and clause 2 of Statute 14 of the Statutes of Aligarh Muslim University, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, six members from among themselves to serve as members of the Court of the Aligarh Muslim University, subject to other provisions of the Statutes. The members so elected shall not be the employees of the University."

The motion was adopted.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Calling Attention listed for today's Agenda will be taken up on some other day.

...(Interruptions)

15.06¹/₂ hrs.

AIRPORTS ECONOMIC REGULATORY AUTHORITY OF INDIA BILL, 2007*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the establishment of an Airports Economic Regulatory Authority to regulate tariff and other charges for the aeronautical services rendered at airports and to monitor performance standards of airports and also to establish Appellate Tribunal to adjudicate disputes and dispose of appeals and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the establishment of an Airports Economic Regulatory Authority to regulate tariff and other charges for the aeronautical services rendered at airports and to monitor performance standards of airports and also to establish Appellate Tribunal to adjudicate disputes and dispose of appeals and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: I introduce** the Bill.
...(Interruptions)

Sir, certain clauses of the Bill involve expenditure from the Consolidated Fund of India. These Clauses have not been printed in thick type or in italics inadvertently.

Sir, with your permission, I would like to bring such Clauses to the notice of the House. The Clauses of the Bill involving expenditure from the Consolidated Fund of India are:

Clause 3 (1), Clause 6 (2), Clause 6 (3), Clause 9 (3), Clause 22, Clause 25 (3) and Clause 34.

* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary Part-II, Section 2, dated 5.9.2007.

** Introduced with the Recommendation of the President.

15.06³/₄ hrs.

[*English*]

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Matters under Rule 377 listed for the day are treated as laid on the Table of the House.

[*Translation*]

(i) Need to expedite the re-opening of Sindri Fertilizer Factory in Jharkhand.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR DUBEY (Dhanbad): Sir, through you while inviting the attention of the hon'ble Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers and Steel towards the non-commencement of the work regarding the reopening of the one and only Sindri Fertilizer Factory located in Jharkhand State which has been lying closed since the year 2002, I would like to inform that as part of the initiative of the present Central Government to increase the production of fertilizers in the country, the Cabinet has taken a decision to restart Sindri Fertilizer Factory after the complete scrutiny of the survey and report conducted by the expert team of P.D.I.L. Even after the approval by the Cabinet, work relating to the re-opening of Sindri Fertilizers Factory could not be started till date. High quality fertilizers were supplied not only to Jharkhand but also to other States like Bihar, Bengal and Uttar Pradesh from this factory. After its closure, due to the scarcity of fertilizers in the eastern States, farmers, businessmen and workers employed in factories are facing severe hardships. Along with this due to fertilizer import, burden has increased on imported business surplus also.

So my demand to the Government is that work related to the re-opening of Sindri Fertilizer Factory be commenced quickly. This is a commitment of the UPA Government; this should be done during the term of the 14th Lok Sabha itself.

[*English*]

(ii) Need to protect the interests of the OBC employees of Cauvery Asset in Karaikal, Pondicherry.

SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN (Palani): In Karaikal, Puducherry, Cauvery Asset was started during the year

*Treated as laid on the Table.

1984 by the Union of India. It is functioning as a primary institution for the exploration of oil and natural gas. Nearly 500 employees belonging to Other Backward Classes are working in that Organization. For the welfare of the OBC employees and to monitor the implementation of 27% reservation, an Association was formed in the year 1994.

As per the directions of ONGC Management vide Order No. HQ/CA/8/(2)/95 dated 31.3.1995, subscription from the pay roll was deducted from the OBC employees of the above said Association from 1995 to 2004 (A/c Code No. 193129) and remitted to the Association.

After implementation of "Shramik" in the Southern Region, the deduction of subscription from the pay roll was stopped without prior intimation. Consequently, the Association is making repeated representations to the respected CMD, Director(HR) to activate the INFO-Type 0057 and Wages Type 9212 for deduction of subscription from the pay roll and also requesting issue of Orders providing 'periodical meetings' for this Association with the ONGC Management at various levels and granting facilities, viz., providing room for the functioning of the Association, etc.

The above Association requested the ONGC Chairman and Managing Director for issuing Orders providing periodical meetings and other benefits. But the representation is still pending. During the pendency, an Association of All India ONGC OBC and MBC Employees Welfare Association was formed by some labour leaders and for that all of the sudden approval was granted on 28th August 2007 and also directed to collect the subscription from the pay roll retrospectively from April 2005.

Hence, I urge upon the Government of India to cancel the Order issued on 28th August 2007 and pass favourable Orders to the ONGC OBC Employees Welfare Association and protect the interests of the OBC employees.

[*Translation*]

(iii) Need to release crop-insurance dues in favour of groundnut producers of Saurashtra.

SHRI V.K. THUMMAR (Amreli): Sir, the crop insurance scheme has been launched in the country which contained

[Shri V.K. Thummar]

many inconsistencies and the said inconsistencies have been removed by the present Government. My request to the Government is that a time schedule be fixed for the payments under the crop insurance scheme. Along with this, please simplify the formalities required to be fulfilled by the farmers. For this purpose, a crop insurance authority be set up for the effective redressal of the complaints regarding crop insurance scheme. In the Saurashtra region of Gujarat and in my parliamentary constituency Amreli payments under the crop insurance scheme for the financial year 2006-2007 for groundnut have not been made till date as a result of which farmers are facing many hardships and they are unable to repay the loans already taken by them and on the other hand short term loans are also not available to them.

Through the House, my request to the Government is that the outstanding payment payable to groundnut growers of the Saurashtra region be made to them immediately and a provision be included for making payments of the crop insurance scheme within a fixed time limit.

[English]

- (iv) **Need to expedite the proposals submitted by Karnataka Government regarding Hubli-Ankola Railway Line Project and Chamarajnagar Kanpur-Bangalore New Railway Line.**

SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI (Gulbarga): Sir, the Karnataka Government have submitted following two proposals to the Union Government:

- (i) Hubli-Ankola New Railway Line project forwarded on 9.1.2007. This 167 km. new railway line with a project cost of about Rs. 998 crore is a very important as it connects the hinterland of North Karnataka with the Ports on the west coast. This will help in transportation of iron ore from Hospet region to the Ports for exports. This work was under implementation. The State Forest Department has given its clearance. The Ministry of Environment and Forests and the Railways have to obtain clearance of the Central Empowered Committee.

- (ii) Chamarajnagar-Kanakapur-Bangalore New Railway Line Project. The project was surveyed by the Railway Ministry. Chamarajnagar is one of the most backward districts of Karnataka. It has high SC & ST population. This railway line connects Chamarajnagar District with Bangalore and will help in the socio-economic development of Chamarajnagar and Ramanagaram District.

Both the above proposals were submitted in January 2007 and are important for the Karnataka State.

I urge upon the Government to take urgent steps to consider and clear both these proposals.

[Translation]

- (v) **Need to restore local rail service between Palanpur and Gandhidham, extend Gujarat Mail upto Palanpur and introduce DMU rail service between Mount Abu and Ahmedabad**

SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA (Banaskantha): Sir, many local rail services were operational before the gauge conversion from metergauge to broad-gauge between Palanpur and Gandhidham in my parliamentary constituency Banaskantha, however, after the construction of broadgauge line no public rail service is operational in this railway division. As a result of that the people of the villages lying adjacent to this railway division are facing many inconveniences. Gujarat Mail runs between Mumbai and Ahmedabad and remains stationed for fifteen hours at the Ahmedabad railway station. If this rail service is extended up to Palanpur, it will prove convenient to the passengers of North Gujarat travelling to Mumbai and Railways will earn additional revenue. Alongwith this through this House, I request that DMU rail service is operational between Mount Abu and Ahmedabad. As per the demands of the people, two DMU rail services be introduced between Ahmedabad and Palanpur.

Through the House, I urge the Government to restore the local rail services between Palanpur and Gandhidham as were operational in the earlier days, extend the rail service between Mumbai and Ahmedabad upto Palanpur and introduce one more DMU rail service between Mount Abu and Ahmedabad.

[English]

- (vi) Need to conduct an inquiry into the increasing incidents of child mortality in the country.**

MS. INGRID MCLEOD (Nominated): I want to draw the attention of the Government to sudden increase in child mortality in various district hospitals in the country. In the very recent past there have been numerous reports of negligence on the part of Government pediatricians leading to numerous death of the very children they are employed to save. Gross apathy to the plight of children from poor families, admitted to the District hospital in Raigarh in the State of Chhattisgarh, is a case in point. Since 2005 there have been 1024 cases of child mortality in Raigarh district hospital in Chhattisgarh. 179 children have died this year alone. From 1st May to 3rd June 2007 that is 34 days, 59 children have died. Compare the death rate of children with the life-saving facilities available at the hospital. Yearly purchase of medicine alone is Rs 40 lakhs. Last year medicine worth Rs. 2 crore were purchased for treatment of sudden outbreak of diseases. How then did so many children die in this one single hospital. I request the honourable minister to hold an enquiry into the matter in order to fix responsibility for criminal and medical negligence on the doctors in this hospital.

- (vii) Need to connect all administrative centres in Arunachal Pradesh and provide necessary funds for widening of Defence road from Tezpur (Assam) to Tawang (Arunachal Pradesh).**

SHRI KIREN RIJIJU (Arunachal West): Arunachal Pradesh is the largest State in the North East and situated in the strategically most sensitive location which is bound by Burma in the East, China in the North and Bhutan in the West. The road connectivity in the State is the lowest in the country and more than 70% area is still without road linkages. The local people in the border areas still walk for several days to reach their nearest administrative centres in very difficult and inhospitable topography. There is also long pending demand of the State to construct East West highway connecting all the district headquarters.

I would like to reiterate and request the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways to undertake immediate steps to connect at least all the administrative Centres in the State of Arunachal Pradesh and provide necessary fund for immediate completion of widening of Defence road from Tezpur to Tawang which is maintained by BRO.

[Translation]

- (viii) Need to stop Haryana from utilizing water of Bhakra Canal and release of the remaining 0.17 M.A.F. portion of water of Ravi-Beas to Rajasthan.**

SHRI RAM SINGH KASWAN (Churu): Sir, by constructing a new link canal, Haryana has created a new water crisis for Rajasthan. Haryana is constructing a link canal for irrigating the crops of Hansi, Bhiwani and Rohtak districts for which they have prepared themselves to take water from Bhakra main canal. Haryana through Bhakra main line wants to take the water of Ravi Beas from Bhakra Sutlej link canal to Rohtak. Through this canal the water is supplied to Rajasthan also. Against this move of Haryana, Punjab has approached the hon'ble Supreme Court and the Government of Rajasthan is also trying to follow suit. If water is provided to this new canal of Haryana from Bhakra main canal, there will be water crisis for Sidhmukh-Nohar of Rajasthan. One lakh 12 thousand hectares of land is irrigated using the water from this canal. On Rajasthan's claim for 0.57 M.A.F water from Sidhmukh-Nohar a decision was arrived at for 0.47 M.A.F water out of which presently only 0.30 MAF water is being provided. In the year 2002 itself Rajasthan has developed full capacity for the irrigation of areas covered under Sidhmukh-Nohar project. Hence it is very necessary to supply the remaining portion of Rajasthan's share of 0.17 MAF water from the surplus water of Ravi-Beas.

My request to the Government is that Haryana be restrained from utilizing water as a result of the construction of new canal and the remaining 0.17 MAF portion of Rajasthan's share of water be immediately released from the surplus of Ravi Beas.

- (ix) Need to provide additional funds to Rajasthan for the overall development of the State.**

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur): Sir, insufficient funds are provided to Rajasthan for the overall development of the State whereas other States get more

[Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava]

funds. Rajasthan is the biggest State of the country and has vast desert and hilly regions. Agriculture in this State depends on rains and Rajasthan gets only one per cent of the total water of the country.

Therefore, I would like to request the Central Government that more funds should be provided to Rajasthan for its development as till now it has been deprived of adequate funds which is creating hurdles in its development.

(x) Need to conduct an inquiry into reported poor implementation of work under Rashtriya Sam Vikas Yojana in Jalaun Parliamentary Constituency, Uttar Pradesh.

SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH VERMA (Jalaun): Sir, crores of rupees have been allocated by the Central Government under Sam Vikas Yojana for my Lok Sabha constituency, Jalaun, however, the funds have not been properly utilized. The funds allocated for the construction of roads have not been fully spent by the officers and constructors. The funds were allocated to electricity department for changing wires but wires have not been changed and the expenditure has not been made public as to where the funds were spent. Instead of 5 M.V.A. sub station and M.V.A. sub station was set up at Konch and the foundation stone that was laid by me on my own expense has been removed by the executive engineer and the 'Bandhi work' that was to be done by the labourers under the land conservation department was entrusted to the contractors instead of labourers. Besides, many irregularities have also been detected in the muster rolls.

I would like to submit to the Central Government that the funds that were allocated to the various departments under the Sam Vikas Yojana have not been properly utilized.

Therefore, I request that a central committee should be set up to hold an inquiry into the above points and also inform me at the time of inquiry.

(xi) Need to release pending instalment of Funds for various water schemes in Ajmer Parliamentary Constituency.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): Sir, it is on account of non release of pending instalment of funds

that the progress of various water schemes and DPAP, DDP, IWDP etc. run by the Department of Rural Development, Government of India in my parliamentary constituency, Ajmer district, is being adversely affected. Fifth and third instalment of DPAP-batch 7, 8 and 10 (Hariyali 11), 5th, 6th and 7th instalment of DPA batch-7, 5th, 6th and 7th instalment of DDP batch-8, second instalment of DDP-11 (Hariyali 11) and fourth instalment of IWUDP (Arai block) are outstanding. The instalments of the said funds have not been released by the Department of Rural Development, Government of India despite several requests made by DRO Ajmer through the State Government and my written requests to the Government of India. As a result of this there is no physical progress in the said schemes. The work is not being done as per the schedule of 2007-2008 and in the event of non-receipt of the said instalments, the proposal of further instalments cannot be sent to the Government of India. In the absence of release of instalments the wages of labourers are outstanding for several months. This issue has been raised in the quarterly meeting of the vigilance committee under my chairmanship.

Therefore, I request the Government of India that the outstanding instalments of the said DPAP, DDP and IWDP schemes should be released at the earliest, so that the rural development schemes in Ajmer district could gain momentum.

[English]

(xii) Need to release a commemorative stamp in the honour of Shri Birendra Nath Sasmal, a great freedom fighter from Bengal.

SHRI PRASANTA PRADHAN (Contai): In pre-independence era, Bengal gave a lot of freedom fighters and leaders to our beloved country for fighting against the British rule. Birendra Nath Sasmal was one of those freedom fighters m - -, who never compromised with the British Government. He was not only an eminent leader, politician, scholar in Bengal but also a prominent figure in India for his uncompromising character in every field of life. He was so popular in the mind of common people that people called him as 'DESHAPRAN'. He launched the Union Board movement against the illegal tax imposed on the common people at Midnapore district in West Bengal.

For such type of leader and freedom fighter, Government must show a great respect. In this respect, I draw the attention of the Minister of Communications and Information Technology for releasing a postal stamp inscribing his photograph at an earliest.

(xiii) Need to review the norms for identification of BPL families in a scientific manner with a view to cover all the deserving families.

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN (Kasargod): I would like to invite the attention of the Government to some serious issues not only in Kerala but also in various States of our country. The norms prescribed by the Planning Commission and the Central Government to identify the BPL family is not at all scientific. This causes much hardship to the poor people even to the people who belong to the SC/ST categories. This is true in the case of all States. Planning Commission and Central Government hasn't made any deep study in determining the BPL families. The norms prescribed in the all India level also don't reflect the actual situation in each State. As a result, large number of families are excluded from the BPL list. The quota fixed by Central Government to each State has no validity at all. The poor families, even belonging to SC/ST families are denied benefits of various schemes. This is true in the case of the allotment of foodgrain to the State of Kerala and many other States. The Government of India estimated BPL families in Kerala 15.54 lakhs but the actual number of BPL families in the State as on August 2002 was 20.22 lakhs. Kerala has the right to get 58.273 metric tones of foodgrain. But the allotment is only 41.824 metric tones. So the Government has to allot foodgrains at BPL rates to all identified BPL families by the State. The Central Government must also take steps to change the norms in order to give benefit to the deserving families.

[Translation]

(xiv) Need to set up a Kendriya Vidyalaya in Salempur Parliamentary Constituency of Uttar Pradesh.

SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD (Salempur): Sir, there is no Kendriya Vidyalaya in my parliamentary constituency, Salempur. The land has also been provided for Kendriya Vidyalaya near Cheri village by the Cheri Panchayat and

the district administration has been intimated in this regard. The land is located beside the road and is only 5 km. away from Salempur. There has been a longstanding demand to set up a Kendriya Vidyalaya in Salempur, however, till date no action has been taken by the Government in this regard. This year several members, in whose constituency there are no Kendriya Vidyalayas, had to remain deprived of their benefit of admission quota. This has happened for the first time in parliamentary history. In the absence of the school in a parliamentary constituency, admission is given under the quota in nearby district. Besides, I would also like to request the Government that one Kendriya Vidyalaya should be set up in the parliamentary constituency of each Member.

Through the House, I would like to request the Government that a Kendriya Vidyalaya be set up in my parliamentary constituency at the earliest.

(xv) Need to accord the status of a Central University to Patna University, Bihar.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (Patna): Sir, Patna University is counted among the most ancient universities of the country. Apart from being an ancient university, it occupies a high position of its own in various subjects. A demand has been made for a long time to accord the status of a Central University to Patna University. The Hon'ble Minister for Human Resource Development had given an assurance in this regard. However, no concrete steps have been taken by the Central Government in this regard. As a result, there is resentment among the people of Bihar. The status of a Central university will add to the glory and prestige of the Patna University. The concern expressed by the hon'ble Prime Minister on the 60th anniversary of our independence and his declaration of setting up of more Central universities has raised a ray of hope among the people of Bihar. Bihar is already a neglected State, but there is no dearth of talents there. Talented students are migrating from there to other places. The presence of at least a Central university in Bihar will help improve the standard of higher education and it will put a stop to the migration of talented students and it will prove to be a milestone in the development of the State.

Therefore, through this House, I would like to draw the attention of the hon'ble Minister of Human Resource

[Shri Ram Kripal Yadav]

Development towards this matter and urge him that immediate steps be taken to accord the status of a central university to Patna University.

- (xvi) **Need to implement the Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya scheme in district Parbhani, Gujarat through non-Government organizations.**

SHRI TUKARAM GANPATRAO RENGE PATIL (Parbhani): Sir, a scheme, named Kasturba Gandhi Balika Awasiya Vidyalaya has been launched in the country to provide hostel facilities to the girl students belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for imparting education to them. However, by not granting approval to the proposal of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Awasiya Vidyalaya scheme in my parliamentary constituency, Parbhani district, the State Government have not only in my preliminary constituency, but in the whole Maharashtra has deprived the girl students belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes from availing the benefits of the said scheme. The State Government do not have proper infrastructure to implement the said scheme and the District Council will not be able to implement this scheme successfully due to excess burden of work and shortage of staffs. Hence the said scheme should be run through Non Governmental Organizations.

Through the House, I urge the Government to implement the said scheme in Maharashtra through Non-Government Organisations.

[English]

- (xvii) **Need to merge Neelachal Ispat Nigam Limited with Steel Authority of India Limited at the earliest.**

SHRI B. MAHTAB (Cuttack): Neelachal Ispat Nigam, a project established by MMTC of Ministry of Commerce is going to be merged with SAIL. Though Commerce Ministry has the controlling share in Neelachal Ispat Nigam Limited it does not have any interest for expansion i.e. steel making. They get 6 per cent commission on every supply of raw material and sale of finished products. But Government of Orissa, another promoter does not get any share. Since MMTC are not in the trade of steel making as they don't have any expertise in this field and as such no apparent interest is being shown in investing funds for future expansion, there is an urgent need to

expand and produce steel and other value added products to face the competitive worldwide market.

SAIL is also in the race to make its presence felt in the global market and have embarked upon expansion of all units with their earned profits. There is an urgent need to merge the Neelachal Ispat Nigam Ltd. with SAIL. Recently IDBI had conducted valuation of shares of NINL. Later another private valuer also assessed. It is understood that both the valuation were almost same. As there is an attempt by some interested quarter to transfer the NINL Plant to private hands, I urge upon the Government to scuttle it and ensure smooth merger of NINL with SAIL at the earliest.

- (xviii) **Need to protect the "Samadhi" of Late Shri Y.B. Chavan, former Deputy Prime Minister of India, located in Satara district of Maharashtra.**

SHRI SHRINIWAS DADASAHEB PATIL (Karad): Heavy floods for the last three years has caused severe damage to the 'Samadhi' of Late Deputy Prime Minister of India Shri Y.B. Chavan which is located on the confluence of river Krishna and river Koyana. In order to protect the 'Samadhi' from floods, there is utmost need to construct flood retaining structure on the bank of river Krishna in Satara district of Maharashtra. The Union Government should make available necessary funds for the same.

[Translation]

- (xix) **Need to release funds for maintenance and improvement of National Highway No. 80 in Jharkhand.**

SHRI HEMMAL MURMU (Rajmahal): Sir, the State Government have presented a detailed proposal regarding the maintenance, repair and extension etc. of National Highways of Jharkhand State to the Central Government in which there is also a mention of the decrepit National Highway no. 80. In this regard I have been drawing the attention of the Central Government; through this House, as well as through letters time and again, however the progress is zilch in this regard. National highway no. 80 can prove to be a lifeline for the backward areas of Jharkhand including the historic tourist place Rajmahal, however it is in a neglected condition.

For the development of the tribal State Jharkhand, priority should be accorded to the maintenance and development of the roads. Every year NH-80 is damaged due to floods, however, necessary steps are not taken for its repair.

Therefore, necessary instructions should be issued to commence time bound projects for the maintenance, repair, widening, upgrading and development of National highways no. 80 and to release special economic package for the proposed construction of an overbridge on N.H. 80.

(xx) Need to improve the condition of National Highways in the country.

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Pandharpur): Sir, the condition of the National highways is very bad in the country as a result, there has been a rapid increase in the number of road accidents in the country and each year not only thousands of people get killed in these road accidents but large number of people are also seriously injured. One of the major reasons behind these accidents is the bad condition of the National Highways and road accidents are mostly head-on collisions.

National Highways are required to be converted into one ways so that the number of road accidents can be

reduced and apart from this contracts should be given to good road construction companies only and with the help of foreign countries Government should develop such a technique which may help the roads built in our country to remain in good condition at least for 20-25 years.

Through this House, I urge the Government to take proper action in this regard.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): Sir, it seems they are opposing the discussion on Sachar Committee Report. ... (Interruptions) They are now exposed.... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet tomorrow at 11 a.m.

15.07 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Thursday September 6, 2007/Bhadra 15, 1929 (Saka).

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